

NEWS IN SUMMARY

My case is with DPP, doctor says

Mr Peter Huntingford, consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist at the West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone, agreed yesterday that he was one of the two doctors who have been referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions because of an alleged infringement of the Abortion Act, 1967 (Annabel Ferriman writes).

Police computer decision delayed

Despite criticism of West Yorkshire police for not using a computer during the Yorkshire Ripper investigation, and the general acclaim for such services, the West Yorkshire police committee has deferred a decision on providing a £1.7m computer for its police force (Ronald Kershaw writes from Westfield).

London hearings on environment

An international tribunal to review the state of the world's environment is to meet in London in June, Dr Mostafa K. Tolba, executive director of the United Nations environment programme, announced yesterday (Tony Samstag writes).

Boy died after sniffing thinner

Michael Anthony Corbett, aged 14, of Fairbanks Road, Tottenham, London, who sniffed Tippex thinner with friends, was told by Mr Bernard Pearl, the deputy coroner yesterday: "You are lucky to be alive. Don't listen to anything you hear about these things. They are extremely dangerous and can kill."

Bomb practice for prince

Prince Andrew joined HMS Invincible at Portsmouth yesterday to complete his pilot's training. He will practise the navy's helicopter techniques for the detection and destruction of enemy submarines. In war, that would involve dropping nuclear depth bombs.

Students drop aid to African groups

The students' union at the London School of Economics voted by a large majority yesterday to contribute £10,000 a year from union funds towards a scholarship for a black African to study at the LSE, rather than to give the money to southern African liberation movements, as first proposed. The Attorney General has indicated that such payments would be illegal under the union's constitution.

Election of union boss nullified after forgeries

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

The boilermakers' union is to hold a fresh election for its top job after a High Court declaration that half the 1980 poll forged during the 1980 poll which returned Mr James Murray as general secretary.

The case is believed to be the first in which an election to the general secretaryship of a big union has been declared invalid because of voting irregularities since the ballooning scandal in the Electricians' Union 20 years ago.

An agreed statement read out before Mr Justice Dillon and affirming that "serious breaches of rule" took place in the 1980 poll, means that Mr Murray will stand down as general secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Boilermakers, Shipwrights, Blacksmiths and Structural Workers. He can contest a fresh election against Mr Barry Williams, his left-wing rival, in April.

By consent the judge declared the poll null and void after a seven-day hearing which came after a legal challenge by Mr Williams to the official union declaration in September, 1980, that Mr Murray had been elected.

The statement, which will be published in the union's journal next month, affirms that "without the knowledge of either candidate or the society, forged ballot papers had been returned by more than one branch and were included in the total votes recorded for each candidate."

No further cuts for universities

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The Government has decided not to reduce funds for universities and higher education in its attempt to keep the public sector beyond the cuts already announced over the next two years.

The Times wins TV ratings battle

By David Hewson

The BBC and independent television's joint audience ratings body yesterday gave up its attempt to keep viewing figures secret beyond the public after a protracted legal battle by The Times.

Council chiefs' pay rises not as they seem

By David Walker

No mystery was attached to the salary increases recently paid to council chief executives, Mr David Clark, Conservative chairman of Hammersmith and Fulham council's finance committee, said yesterday.

Tornado has its wings clipped

Production targets for the £11.250m Tornado strike aircraft programme are being cut over the next three years because the British and West German governments face cash problems (Henry Scanhope writes).

Railman questioned

British Rail officials are to question Mr Nick Rowles, a train driver, today about his absence from a train involved in a crash at Croydon, London, on Saturday.

Deepening crisis on the railways

Militant guards pile on rail misery

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

The National Union of Railwaymen, the biggest rail union, move last night to head off a revolt by guards who are unhappy about new rostering services in and out of King's Cross was averted but travellers in other parts of the country could still face disruption.

The guards' unofficial action today will come as British Rail tries to get services back to normal after the second two-day strike by the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen and as attempts are being made to find a solution to the deepening crisis on the railways.

Leaders of the NUR called in the guards' representatives from King's Cross yesterday and, after a heated meeting, they decided to call off the threatened 24-hour strike today on the basis of a peace formula agreed with local British Rail management.

It is thought that widespread unofficial action on Southern Region is unlikely, but there may be difficulties on the Brighton line into Victoria and London Bridge. Services could also be affected by threatened guards' action around Liverpool, Holyhead, and Crewe. Birmingham New Street station may face a walk-out by militant guards.

The NUR has agreed flexible rostering proposals with British Rail and, as a consequence, its members have received a 3 per cent pay increase from the beginning of this month. Aslef has refused to accept the proposals and has been staging selective strikes because British Rail has refused to make the 3 per cent payment to its members.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher said in the Commons yesterday that she would not intervene in the dispute and she told MPs that the railways had to be efficient, modern and up-to-date. She said that the longer the dispute went on the more money British Rail would lose. "It will put other people's jobs in jeopardy on British Rail and it is already affecting a number of other people in other industries."

An expected meeting yesterday between unions and British Rail under the auspices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service failed to take place because of difficulties over a suggested arbitration mechanism to get the strikes called off. It is thought that British Rail said it would not attend the meeting unless the findings of an arbitration panel were binding, a suggestion that apparently did not meet favour with Aslef. It is hoped to arrange talks for today.

The NUR guards' strike means the 25,000 commuters who travel to Liverpool from the Wirral will be without a service on the Merseyrail suburban network this morning for the third day (Our Liverpool correspondent writes).

There will be no services between Liverpool and New Brighton, West Kirby, and Rockferry.

Rail commuters can expect delays and cancellations on many lines as Aslef drivers return to work today (David Hewson writes).

Two men were killed when trapped in a car which caught fire after colliding with two lorries. The lorry had jack-knifed on black ice at Tostock near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. A third man died in another three-vehicle crash near Great Dunmow, Essex.

Another motorist died when his car skidded on black ice on the A27 near Chichester, West Sussex. The car spun across the central reservation and careered into another vehicle travelling in the opposite direction. The dead man was named as Mr Peter Shaul, of Bookers Lane, Peel Common, Gosport, Hampshire.

London bus and Tube workers could be urged not to collect fares when they are increased in March as a result of the Law Lords' ruling on the Greater London Council's bus fare policy (our London correspondent writes).

Mr Andrew Dods, assistant general secretary of the NUR, said that a refusal to collect the increased fares was one of several strong possibilities of industrial action as a protest

Hospital incinerated stillborn baby girl

By John Withers

Health officials in Staffordshire are investigating a case in which a stillborn baby girl was cremated in a hospital incinerator three months after her birth.

The baby, one of premature twins, died five minutes after birth but her body was kept in Burton-on-Trent hospital between March and June, 1980, because her parents could not afford a funeral.

In such cases hospitals usually arrange burial or cremation but there were apparently problems over the parents' authorization for the disposal of the bodies. The other child, which lived for seven hours in an intensive care unit, received a Christian burial.

The case was disclosed by Mr Philip Smith, Mayor of Tamworth, at a meeting of the Association of District Councils when he called for an increase in the £30 death grant.

The first child was incinerated at the hospital's disposal of an amputated limb", he said.

The parents had approached him because they could not afford £120 for the funeral. Mr Smith arranged for them to be written permission to the hospital to dispose of the bodies.

Mr Sidney Evans, administrator for the South East Staffordshire Health District, confirmed details of the case and said babies died soon after birth were usually buried.

Last month the Stillbirth and Perinatal Death Association said some hospitals were placing stillborn babies in public graves containing up to 200 bodies.

Hospitals have clear guidance on taking responsibility for arranging funerals when relatives cannot afford to do so (Far Healy writes).

Hospitals can pay for either burial or cremation where no arrangements are made by relatives and where relatives cannot be traced or cannot afford the funeral.

Specific guidance on stillbirths, issued in 1976, told health authorities to offer to make funeral arrangements for parents, who were not to be charged if they accepted.

The Social Security system provides a lump sum grant of £300 for funeral costs. People who have paid roughly six months' national insurance contributions in the relevant tax year are entitled to a death grant. For a child under three that is £50.

People entitled to supplementary benefit, whether or not they claim it, can have the cost of a basic funeral met by a lump sum grant, but that is not available if there is another source of money, including insurance policies.

Mr Colin Payne found a newborn girl wrapped in a carrier bag in rounds as a postman yesterday (our Gloucester correspondent writes).

The 3lb 13oz baby, who was less than two hours old, was taken by ambulance to the special care unit at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital maternity wing and was later said to be doing well. Nurses named her Joy.

Mr Payne, of Hatherley Road, Gloucester, found the baby on Mr Ivor Smith's doorstep in Althorne Road, Churchdown, Gloucester.



William Stafford, a Bournemouth lecturer, holding aloft his Sylphides d'Océlie Marcus (a light cream flavoured with crème de menthe and sorrel) after winning the Chef of the Year contest at the International Hotel and Catering Exhibition at Olympia yesterday.

NO RETURN FOR DINNER LADIES

From Our Correspondent

Four school canteen assistants at Walsall, West Midlands, dismissed after refusing to join a trade union, will not get their jobs back despite the ruling of an industrial tribunal.

The decision could mean that councillors will have to pay them compensation from their own pockets.

The tribunal in Birmingham ruled that the women, Mrs Doris Todd, of Erdington, Mrs Irene Russell, of Little Bloxwich, Mrs Wendy Clift, of Brownhills, and Mrs Gloria Price, of Walsall, had been unfairly dismissed.

But Mr Brian Powell, leader of the Labour-controlled council, said: "I think the tribunal's decision was irresponsible. There is no way they will get their jobs back."

If they did there would be a mammoth dispute with the unions. Paying them compensation would be cheap compared with the cost of a dispute."

Mr Ed Bottomley, area officer of the National Union of Public Employees, threatened to sue Walsall town council if the council gave the women their jobs back. A closed shop agreement had been signed by the council and the unions.

'Life' for McAliskey raid leader

James Watson, leader of a gang that took part in a carefully planned attempt to murder Mrs Bernadette McAliskey and her husband, was jailed for life yesterday after a judge described him as a determined and dangerous man.

Two other members of the gang received heavy jail sentences for their part in the raid at the former Westminster MP's isolated country home in which she and Mr Michael McAliskey, her husband, were seriously wounded.

Mrs McAliskey, formerly Bernadette Devlin, was with her husband in Belfast, Crown Court to see the three men sentenced.

As they stood to leave the court, the men turned towards her and gave a clenched fist salute before being taken away.

At the start of yesterday's hearing, two of the men, Raymond Smallwood and Thomas Graham, who had pleaded not guilty to all the charges they faced on Wednesday, changed their pleas to guilty. Watson admitted attempting to murder the couple.

Mr Justice MacDermott told the three men that without the immediate response of soldiers who had heard gunshots at the couple's isolated home near Coalisland, Co Tyrone, last January, and given immediate medical aid they might have been facing a murder charge.

Jailing Watson, aged 27, an electrician, of Dunmurry, Co Antrim, for life after he admitted attempting to murder Mr and Mrs McAliskey, the judge said he had no doubt that he was the leader who had stopped firing his gun only when the magazine was exhausted.

Watson had taken part in serious offences since 1976 and the events of last January "revealed you as a person both determined and dangerous", the judge said.

Watson was also given concurrent jail sentences after being charged with conspiring to murder Mrs McAliskey, causing explosions and possession of firearms.

Smallwood, aged 31, a lorry driver, of Lisburn, Co Antrim, who admitted attempting to murder Mrs McAliskey, was given a 15-year jail sentence and further prison sentences for possession of firearms, to run concurrently.

Graham, aged 33, also of Lisburn, admitted for 20 years after admitting attempting to murder both Mr and Mrs McAliskey and was given

Science report

Pollution breeds a growth industry

By Tony Samstag

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), only recently recognized as a virulent environmental pollutant, may already have spawned a renaissance in the development of safe substitutes and disposal methods. That at least is the view of a small firm in West Yorkshire specializing in the removal, replacement and disposal of PCBs.

Leakage of PCBs from a transformer at an animal feed plant in Montana in 1979 brought those substances notoriety as animal products contaminated with them spread throughout the United States and as far as Japan. The American Government subsequently ordered the replacement of PCBs in equipment used by food, animal feed and agrochemical production, and PCB pollution has cost United States industries many millions of dollars in clean-up costs.

For the firm of R. F. Winder of Stanningley, West Yorkshire, the burgeoning interest in PCB replacement has created a growth industry, having grown to occupy about 15 per cent of its staff in just three years.

Reporting the phenomenon, ENDS, the magazine of Environmental Data Services Ltd, states that although such manufacturers as Monsanto and Bayer have lost most of their markets for PCBs in the industrialized world, considerable wealth and employment has been created by restrictions on their use.

Alternative dielectric fluids are now in production and available from at least three companies, including Dow Corning, the RTE Corporation of Wisconsin, and a GEC subsidiary in Manchester; in the United States, several companies are developing detoxification processes with an eye on an estimated 765m of PCBs that will require disposal.

Source: ENDS, (Report 83, pp 13-14), Environmental Data Services, 10000 Rte 101, Suite 100, Glen Head, New York, 11545.

SCOTTISH POLICY ON RAPE

From Our Correspondent Edinburgh

Three of Scotland's senior judges are defining clearly the sentencing policy of the Scottish Bench on rape cases yesterday.

At the Scottish Court of Criminal Appeal, in Edinburgh, two men sentenced each to seven years' imprisonment for raping a young woman in a flat in Glasgow, lost their appeal against conviction and sentence.

Richard Ferns, aged 29, of Provannhill Street, and James Paterson, aged 30, of Gask Place, both Glasgow, claimed that their sentences were too severe. They also claimed that Lord Cameron, the trial judge, had misdirected the jury.

Dismissing the appeals, Lord Wheatley, the Lord Justice Clerk, gave the view of the Appeal's opinion. "The law in Scotland regards rape as a very serious offence. Like murder and treason, it is a High Court offence. The sentence will depend on the circumstances of each individual case."

He added: "There is a thread running through sentencing policy in Scotland which clearly demonstrates the Bench in Scotland by a large margin takes the view that rape is an offence which must be visited by severe and condign punishment."

"There seems to be a feeling at the present time among the young female, old female, or any female at all is fair game for their sexual activities."

"If she shows any resistance it is just overcome. The female has become resigned to this form of criminal activity will be faced with severe sentences, perhaps the sooner the streets and houses will be safe to live in."

The case before the court was a "violent form of rape". Ferns and Paterson were convicted of rape at the High Court in Glasgow last September. The jury found them guilty of assaulting the young woman by pushing and pulling her, detaining her in a cupboard against her will, slapping her on the face, striking her on the body with a piece of wood, and then repeatedly raping her.

Clinton Conicle, aged 31, of Portland Road, Southwark, south London, who raped a New Zealand woman aged 23 who was in London on holiday, was jailed for three years at the Central Criminal Court.

Overseas selling prices: Austria 50, Australia 50, Belgium 50, Canada 50, Denmark 50, France 50, Germany 50, Greece 50, Italy 50, Japan 50, Korea 50, Luxembourg 50, Netherlands 50, Norway 50, Portugal 50, Spain 50, Sweden 50, Switzerland 50, Taiwan 50, Thailand 50, United Kingdom 50, USA 50, Yugoslavia 50.

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The plight of youth

Explosion of anger feared

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Increasing homelessness among teenagers is alarming social agencies worried about inner-city lawlessness and the possible recurrence of riots.

"We are beginning to see frustration among young people," said Mr Nicholas Fenton, director of Centrepoint in Soho, London, which provides emergency night shelter. "That is why you are going to see more crime. They are going to steal to get money to survive."

Last year, Centrepoint had 12,100 requests for admission, compared with 8,700 in 1978.

The concern is corroborated in a report this week by Mr Stewart Lansley, chairman of Lambeth Borough Council's community affairs committee.

He says that unemployment in Lambeth now exceeds 15,000, compared with 13,926 in April, the time of the riot.

A report yesterday by a working party of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (Nacro) confirms the trend. Not only is there increasing homelessness among the young, but it is occurring at an early age.

The report says that threshold, a housing aid centre in south London, experienced a 150 per cent increase in the referral rate last year to a figure of three or four homeless people a day. It is estimated that 10,000 16 to 18-year-olds are discharged from care each year.

Among the homeless, the 16 to 18 age group is increasing in size; 91 of 231 referrals to short-stay accommodation in Liverpool in 1980-81 were 16 and 17-year-olds.

There are disproportionate numbers of homeless young people from the ethnic minorities, the Nacro report says.

The overlap between young people who have been in care and are offenders and are homeless is shown by a survey of receptions at a remand centre in the West Midlands. Of 500 young people between the ages of 14 and 20 who were received, 46 per cent said they had been in care.

One third of the young adults incarcerated in institutions are either at risk of being homeless or are literally so, according to probation officers.

The Nacro report quotes a depressing pattern observed by social workers. A young person becomes homeless; if he is not already unemployed he soon becomes so; as he is of no fixed abode, he has to sign on every day, that prevents him from finding work and for accommodation; financial necessity or boredom perhaps leads him to steal food; he is caught and comes before the court; because he is of no fixed abode, he receives a custodial sentence; he faces accommodation problems on discharge; and the vicious circle continues.

Nacro's report calls on the Department of the Environment to create a short-term fund to help to establish local housing services for the young.

Mr Peter Westland, chairman of the working party which produced the report, said that in 1976 a Department of Health report pressed for urgent action. "Since then we have witnessed a sorry saga of inaction, back-passing and denial of responsibility, while the scale of the problem has become rapidly and seriously worse," he said.

Homeless Young Offenders. An action programme.

Nacro, 169 Clapham Road, London SW9 0PU. £3.25.



In training: Children beat the rail strike as the miniature railway train which takes them to school in New Romney, Kent, pulls into Dymchurch station.

Survival in the lower depths

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Bill, a former soldier who saw friends killed in Northern Ireland and bought himself out, has learnt how to make a night shelter in St James Park, London, out of deckchairs. But the Savoy Hotel offers four-star dosing for those in the know: there is a recess at the back with an air-conditioning ventilator.

He was one of a group of youngsters I spoke to yesterday in a London hostel. His survival experience is handy for young people on the streets and out of a job. After leaving the Army Bill got into a downward spiral of joblessness and eventually homelessness.

Shane, another city centre victim, now 20, had no money for food and shelter

when he was alone in London aged 17 and became a male prostitute, hanging around Piccadilly Circus. A session then cost £30. He had left Devon to try to come to terms with his homosexuality.

Joe had a job in a hospital but lost it after bouts of fainting and falling asleep. Then, after a year in and out of different hospitals and a collapse of unconsciousness, he collapsed underground railway platform and was out for one and a half days. He woke up on a respirator in yet another hospital. At last he is fitted with a pacemaker.

Mr Stephen Jacobs, coordinator of the West End Coordinating Voluntary Services for the Single Homeless, says: "One wonders if

Doctor 'paid bribe to aid Poulson'

From Our Correspondent Bournemouth

A doctor accused of acting as a middle man in a Poulson bribery deal 16 years ago told the police it was unbelievable when he was arrested at his home last June, a court was told yesterday.

Dr Kenneth Williams, aged 54, a consultant of Glenferris Avenue, Bournemouth, Dorset, told the police he could not believe he was being charged after so long. He was facing criminal proceedings at Bournemouth Magistrates' Court on two charges of corruptly offering a total of £5,000 to ensure that a hospital construction contract went to Mr John Poulson's company in Yorkshire.

The money was allegedly paid in two instalments to a Maltese agent in 1966 for transmission to Dr Carmelo Caruana, then Minister of Public Buildings and Works in Malta, when Dr Williams was managing director of Vickers Ltd's medical engineering division.

Mr James Green, for the defence, said the hearing was trial by documentation.

The case was committed to Winchester Crown Court and will be continued subject to two sureties of £5,000 each.

No action after police riot assault

By Frances Gibb

Disciplinary proceedings are not to be brought against police officers who injured a voluntary medical worker in the riot in Southall, London in 1979 despite there being evidence that excessive force was used.

Mr Richard Bunning, then aged 24, had complained to the Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police that in disturbances at Park View Road on April 23, 1979, where he was helping in the first aid room, he was struck about the head by police officers. He was detained overnight in hospital with concussion.

The Director of Public Prosecutions told him that he did not consider the evidence of assault sufficient for charges to be brought against any one officer.

The decision means, however, that the Police Complaints Board in turn cannot bring disciplinary charges against any officers because of the "double jeopardy" rule which operates in police complaints procedures.

Under the present system, if the DPP decides against bringing a prosecution, the board cannot question that decision and cannot bring about disciplinary charges based on the same facts and evidence.

Subsidies favour rich more, don says

By Robert Jones

The subsidies which flow from the Welfare State disproportionately favour the rich and well-off more than the needy. That is the conclusion of a research study published today, and it should cause politicians to question the assumptions on which they are basing their arguments about which public subsidies should be cut.

The study, entitled *The Strategy of Equality*, has been written by Dr Julien Le Grand, an economics lecturer at the London School of Economics.

His conclusion expressed in careful academic terms, is: "public expenditure, in almost all the forms reviewed, is distributed in favour of the higher social groups."

The forms of expenditure that Dr Le Grand has studied are health care, education, housing and transport, which in total account for something like two fifths of all government expenditure in Britain, and loom large in most other Western democracies.

His findings are:

Health: The top socioeconomic group, professionals, employers and managers, benefits from up to two fifths more National Health Service expenditure per ill person than the bottom group, semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers.

Education: The top group receives nearly a half more public expenditure a person than the bottom group. But that is not yet another argument against the public schools.

The important differences are in after-16 education. The subsidy favours the top people by three times as much in further education as a whole, and by no less than five times as much in university education.

Housing: The highest group receives more than twice as much as the lowest group. The subsidy element in the tax relief on mortgages for owner-occupier more than compensates for the subsidy to council house tenants.

Transport: The richest fifth on income distribution receives about 10 times as much private subsidy a household on rail travel and 17 times as much on private transport as the poorest fifth. Even subsidies on bus operators benefit the better off, although the evidence is more questionable.

Dr Le Grand concludes that, on bus travel, manual workers are the principal beneficiaries.

Those results quite simply cut the ground away from both sides in the present debate. The right-wing Conservative view is that the cuts, although painful, are necessary for economic survival. The Labour viewpoint is that the cuts affect the worst off most harshly.

On that analysis, government subsidies in these areas are pouring more of the money into the pockets of the well-off, powerful, and healthy, rather than redistributing wealth to those in need.

The Strategy of Equality, by Julien Le Grand (George Allen & Unwin; paperback £12.50, paperback £4.95).

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Fire risk at Free Trade Hall

The wiring and ventilation system at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, is in such a dangerous state that it is a fire hazard, safety experts have said.

Health and Safety Executive officers have asked Manchester City Council, which owns and runs the hall, for an immediate undertaking to carry out maintenance work.

The hall is the home of the Halle Orchestra and often stages big pop concerts. The council's finance committee heard yesterday that the plant, which was installed 30 years ago, is reaching the end of its useful life.

Much of the equipment is obsolete and substandard, some has stopped working, and other parts are a fire hazard.

The committee recommended that the council should spend more than £400,000 over the next six years to remedy the defects; but work will not start until the hall closes for six weeks in July.

Poison letters to Penlee widows

Widows of the men lost in the Penlee lifeboat disaster off Penzance last month, whose lives are nearing £3m, have been receiving malicious anonymous letters. Mrs Mary Greenough, one of the widows, said that women with older children had been the main targets. One letter said that they had been glad of the tragedy and would be "merry widows."

John Cleese's wife banned

Mrs Barbara Cleese, of Nottigham Hill, London, the wife of John Cleese, the actor, was banned from driving for a year and fined £100 at Marylebone Court yesterday after admitting failing to give a blood or urine sample for alcohol tests last December. Mrs Cleese, who was stopped by the police after driving through a red light, denied driving while unfit because of drink or drugs and the police offered no evidence on that charge.

Forger's prison sentence cut

Pier Luigi Torri, a former film producer of Mount Street, Mayfair, London, convicted at the Central Criminal Court in March, 1980, of forgery charges involving £732,000, had his seven-year jail sentence reduced to three years by the Court of Appeal in London yesterday. Lord Justice O'Connor said the sentence was excessive.

Target missing

The jobcentre at Grantham, Lincolnshire, with 600 unemployed women on its books, is having difficulty filling one of its few vacancies, a £10-a-night job as "target" for Buffalo Billy Wild, a knife thrower.

Cash help for adoptive parents

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Private adoption except between relatives are to be outlawed and adoptive parents are to receive a weekly allowance under important changes in adoption law to be introduced next month after a delay of more than five years.

Voluntary adoption agencies will have to be approved by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Security before they can register with local authorities under the changes which have been on the books since 1975, but have not been implemented because of lack of money.

The Act was designed to make adoption a genuine option for more children in care who needed to be

brought up in families and to minimise the financial situation would have prevented adoption.

Some children now living with foster parents cannot be adopted because the family cannot afford to lose the fostering allowances. The provision is designed to test whether an adoption allowance in such cases would lead to more adoptions. Experience in the United States suggests that it does.

A report on the experiment must be made to Parliament within seven years.

The British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering is sending a guide on adoption allowances to its members today encouraging them to produce their own schemes.

60,000 sheep still lost

By Nicholas Timmins

Sheep farmers in Wales were still digging out of the remaining snowdrifts an estimated 60,000 missing sheep yesterday. And the National Farmers' Union said that if the thaw had not started last weekend, up to half the 3.4 million sheep in Wales might have been lost.

The total number of deaths, although it may be thousands, looks as though it will be relatively small, even though some individual farmers have lost a tenth of their flock. But Mr Alan Edwards, the NFU's commodity secretary in Wales, said yesterday that the worst effects of the snow may still be to come.

Many sheep will recover, but some will lose their lambs. "A lot of twin lambs will probably become one lamb. The implications for the long term are probably a sight worse than the actual losses in the snow."

An NFU survey suggests that coastal counties suffered far more than the uplands. A rough estimate suggested that 60,000 sheep were still unaccounted for. "That does not mean to say they are all dead," Mr Edwards said.

The Milk Marketing Board has already been asked to make some payment to producers who took reasonable precautions against the weather and made efforts to have their milk collected.

□ The European Economic Community is to give Britain about £800,000 towards repairing damage caused by the recent severe weather, it was announced yesterday (a Staff Reporter writes).

The money will not be earmarked for specific regions, although much of it is expected to go to Wales and the South-West. Welsh house holders and farmers may qualify for small individual grants from the £800,000, but councils and Welsh industry will be unable to claim.

Appeal by black fireman

By Lucy Hodges

The only black fireman in Lancashire, who was dismissed for alleged insubordination - failing to stand to attention and failing to salute - is appealing to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, for reinstatement.

The case of Mr Roland Steven, set out in Roger Cook's *Checkpoint* programme on BBC Radio 4 yesterday, has aroused great concern in the black community. The shortage of black firemen recently led London's fire chief to the United States to find out how blacks were recruited there.

Mr Steven, of Blackpool, had been five years in the fire service. Before that he spent 12 years in the Army, with a period as section commander in Northern Ireland.

His dismissal was ordered first in 1980 after a hearing in front of Mr Jack Warden, Chief Fire Officer of Lancashire, and was confirmed last year by the Lancashire fire authority.

Mr Steven is appealing on the grounds of unfair dismissal and racial discrimination. At first he was charged with four disciplinary offences: neglect of duty, disobedience to orders, and two offences of insubordination. The two first charges were dismissed and the last two upheld.

On the programme yesterday his supporters said there had been intimidation of potential witnesses, and that Mr Steven had been subjected to racial jibes.

On the programme Mr Warden denied those allegations and said there was far more to it than refusal to salute an officer.

□ Three non-white recruits were present at the passing-out parade at the London fire brigade's training headquarters yesterday, bringing the number of non-white London firemen to 20, out of a workforce of 7,000.



Anne Keating, a midwife with seven years' nursing experience, takes home £320 a month.



Bridget Lovell, a hospital staff nurse with four years' experience, £323.



Sheila Walker, a community nurse with eight years' experience, £308.

Why nurses want to breach pay limit

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Thousands of nurses and midwives are expected to attend a rally in Trafalgar Square in London on Sunday as the culmination of their campaign for more pay.

Britain's 460,000 nurses are seeking a 12 per cent pay rise, five times more than the Government's planned cash limit for salaries, but they have two disadvantages in their fight: their huge numbers and their unwillingness to strike.

Because there are so many of them every percentage point awarded over the average puts an extra £25m on the salaries bill, while the Royal College of Nursing's no-strike policy means that the Government can be sure that if the nurses are limited to 4 per cent there will not be any serious industrial action.

Three state registered nurses, who feel bitter about their pay and who feel there are good reasons why nurses should be outside the cash limit, highlight the problem. All three have done a

minimum of three years' training and have between four and eight years' experience each.

In addition, one, Anne Keating, has done a year's course in midwifery, but that does not earn her any more than her nurse colleagues. In fact, it puts her back as far as earnings are concerned because it delays by a year her chance of becoming a sister.

Miss Keating, aged 26, who works at Middlesex Hospital, London, and lives in north London, earns a gross monthly salary of £490 and takes home £320.

Her monthly outgoings are rent £95, electricity £25, food £50, travelling £13, driving lessons £28, television rental £7.50, and laundry £5. There is £224 a month for clothes, entertainments, holidays, newspapers, and savings.

She says: "Our wages generally seem to be going downhill. The rises that we have had have just not kept

pace with inflation."

Community nurse Sheila Walker, aged 27, who is attached to a health centre in Nottingham, visits patients who have to be nursed at home, is particularly angry about the poor contribution she gets towards running her Mini Metro, which she bought a year ago by using her savings and borrowing £2,000 from her parents.

She gets a 16p-a-mile car allowance and an annual lump sum of £300. She is taxed on the mileage allowance and says the £300 does not go far towards depreciation.

She takes home £308 a month, and pays £71 for rent, £90 for food, £11 for gas and electricity and about £58 for her car, after taking into account the allowances.

"Up to now, my pay has never worried me particularly because I have always had a pound in my pocket. But now I would like to stop paying rent and buy my own place but there is no way I

could get together a deposit", she said.

Staff Nurse Bridget Lovell, aged 25, who works at the Royal Free Hospital, north London, and lives in Camden Town near by, is unhappy about the antisocial hours and poor career structure. She works part of the week from 7.30am to 4.30pm, the rest from 12.30pm to 9.30pm and every other weekend.

She is unusual in having a degree from Bristol.

"You can think in terms of becoming a sister, but then after that the choice is either to go into teaching or administration. But if you do not want to do either, that is you want to stay on the wards, you are stuck with very low pay."

Her monthly take home pay of £323 goes on rent £80, rates £12, gas and electricity £8, telephone £5, transport £9, food £90, and cigarettes £20; leaving about £100 for clothes, entertainments, holidays, savings for a car, and newspapers.

Man complains over Motorail ban

By David Nicholson-Lord

A businessman banned by British Rail from using its Motorail service has accused British Rail of abusing its monopoly and said he intended to complain to the Director-General of Fair Trading.

Mr Edward Lacoste, aged 38, put £8,000 of savings and redundancy money into launching a parcels delivery business after losing his job as a newspaper marketing executive. But after initially welcoming his venture, British Rail told him last month he could no longer use Motorail, on which the scheme relies, apparently because of fears of competition.

Mr Lacoste, who denied that his venture threatened British Rail's Red Star parcels service, has complained to Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport. In a letter to Mr Howell, Sir

Peter Parker, British Rail's chairman, defended the decision. According to British Rail, it was a matter of commercial judgement.

Mr Lacoste's business, Overnight Bag Enterprises, cuts out several loading and handling stages and reduces costs by sending parcels in vans by Motorail. He began it 15 months ago and succeeded in building up a turnover of £80,000, worth £10,000 a year to Motorail, with twice weekly deliveries between London and Edinburgh.

Although he has maintained costs and destroyed the original concept of minimal handling and hence less risk of damage, he says.

British Rail said Motorail was designed and priced to take motorists and their vehicles long distances by rail, "not to provide a service for a general parcels carrier taking unit loads".

Leyland's truck range bang on target.

Five years ago Leyland Vehicles carried out one of the most exhaustive studies ever into the needs of commercial transport.

It showed that the most important requirement for a transport operator is a vehicle that is precisely tailored to his needs.

With this in mind Leyland have designed and built a giant assembly

plant to produce highly individual trucks tailored to specific operator requirements, but using high-technology automated equipment.

The new plant is now on stream. Giving the truck operator exactly what he needs. But at a cost-effective price.

BL Fighting back

Bishops in outburst over civil marriage

From Mario Mediano, Athens, Jan. 21

The Orthodox Church of Greece has condemned civil marriage as "an act of prostitution and adultery" and demanded that the Socialist Government should desist from its plan to make this form of marriage ceremony legal.

Religious marriage only is binding in Greece, and the Government promised to make the civil marriage compulsory and the religious ceremony optional.

The church reacted strongly. A unanimous resolution passed during a stormy meeting of the General Synod last night, declared that only religious marriage could be legalised according to Orthodox doctrine.

The bishops ruled: "Any Greek Orthodox marrying by civil ceremony will cut himself from the church since he shall thereby forswear, wittingly and publicly, a fundamental command of the faith... and will, therefore, renounce its blessing."

The Synod said it would tolerate the introduction of civil marriage only for declared atheists or members of other creeds or religions.

Earlier the meeting had nearly broken up in disarray when Bishop Ambrosios, one of the 70 odd churchmen attending, shouted abuse against the country's political leaders and accused the Prime Minister, Archbishop Serafim, of scheming with "these godless atheists and Marxists."

According to one account, the Archbishop, who had fought as a guerrilla leader during the war, pounced on his detractors and threatened to use force to stop him. The two men had to be physically restrained before the session could be resumed.

The General Synod decided to send a committee of bishops to the President of the Republic and the Prime Minister to underline the strength of feeling in the Church over this issue.

The Government so far has not reacted to this rebuff, but the episode could signal a confrontation between the Socialists and the traditionally conservative church leaders who are concerned that the new regime is out to deprive the church of its powers and property.

The Socialists seem determined to press ahead with the separation of church and state to end the Greek's dependence of the church in several formalities relating to their civil status, such as registration of births, marriages, and ratification of divorces. Greek newspapers estimate that the State for these functions yield at least £6m a year.

Although it is an extreme example, it does demonstrate the vulnerability of migrant workers, especially those in the country illegally, who are usually prepared to work for a pittance.

Official estimates put the number of illegal immigrants at between 3.5 million and six million, and the figure is rising by up to 500,000 a year. Most come from Mexico.

Illegal immigration has always been an acute problem, but has increased sharply over the past few years, primarily because of high unemployment in Mexico and other Latin American countries. Most of those arrested are deported but many persuade the authorities to let them stay.

Last year 980,000 illegal immigrants were caught, and each had to be put through a laborious screening process before being granted residential status or sent home. The increase in immigration has created opportunities for unscrupulous employers; reports of sweat-shop labour conditions are widespread.

There is little the immigration authorities can do to halt illegal crossings from Mexico but the Coast Guard has intensified efforts to halt immigration by boat.

President Reagan last September ordered the Coast Guard to apprehend and return the growing number of arrivals from Haiti, a decision that has angered the relatively small but vociferous Haitian community, most of whom live in Miami.

Immigrants from Cuba nearly always stay because Cuba will not take them back, although last Friday one man was accepted. He was the first in several years to return.

British and American officials are concerned over developments on the Caribbean island of St Lucia, where a left-winger has taken power after a general strike which paralysed the former British colony.

The strike, which was joined by civil servants, prompted fears that the island might be about to go the way of Grenada, which has aligned itself with Cuba under the extreme left-wing Government of Mr Maurice Bishop.

Officials contacted by telephone in Castries, the capital of St Lucia, said that Mr Michael Pilgrim, the deputy leader of the Progressive Labour Party, the smallest party in the House of Assembly, has set about forming an interim Government of National Unity after

Arabs regroup in UN battle against Israelis

From Our Correspondent, New York, Jan. 21

An emergency special session of the United Nations General Assembly was under active consideration by the Arab group today after its efforts to revoke voluntary sanctions against Israel were blocked by the United States in the Security Council.

Comforted by Britain and France abstaining during last night's vote, the Arab group vowed that the Americans would not prevent the United Nations from fulfilling its responsibilities. The Israeli annexation of the Golan Heights was an act of aggression and would have to be responded to with equal force.

Diplomatic sources said that a forthcoming meeting of Arab foreign ministers would decide whether or not to ask for an emergency special session. In the past these sessions have been convened when a measure has been vetoed in the Security Council by a veto from one or more of the permanent members.

Last night Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the American delegate, said the United States had vetoed the draft resolution because it was "an aberration" and "even a perversion" of the reason for the Council's existence.

"We do not approve of Israel's annexation," she said. "Nor do we believe that annexation has occurred."

Leading article, page 9

Mrs Kirkpatrick seemed to be alluding to Israeli claims that its December 14 law placing the Golan Heights under its legal jurisdiction was just that and the status of the Israeli-occupied territory was subject to change through the process of negotiations.

Mr Yehuda Blum, the Israeli delegate, last night appealed to Syria to abandon its path of confrontation and begin peace negotiations immediately.

Damascus: Syria today accused the United States of encouraging Israel to destroy chances of peace in the Middle East by vetoing the United Nations Security Council resolution on sanctions (Reuter reports).

Cairo: Egypt will not accept any restrictions on Palestinian rights in autonomy negotiations, Mr Kamal Hassan Ali, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, said in an interview published today in the weekly, *al-Mussawwar*, (AFP Reports).

"Egypt also refuses to allow the Palestinians to be replaced" in any talks, added Mr Ali, "it is not simply a question of signing an agreement, but to sign one allowing other parties to participate in the negotiations."

China plea for profit sharing

Peking, Jan. 21 — The People's Daily, the Chinese Communist Party newspaper, in a reversal of past ideological teachings, said today that workers should have a direct stake in profits earned by their factories.

It also called for tighter managerial control in industry and recommended that employees who consistently fail to turn up for work should be dismissed.

The proposals would have been considered heretical until recently but China's present leaders are attempting to do away with the "iron rice-bowl" concept which makes it almost impossible to dismiss a worker.

The newspaper also called for the separation of party and administrative offices in industry.

The present pragmatic leadership under Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping is trying to reduce the emphasis on ideology (Reuter).

Leftist takeover feared on Caribbean island

From Our Correspondent, Washington, Jan. 21

British and American officials are concerned over developments on the Caribbean island of St Lucia, where a left-winger has taken power after a general strike which paralysed the former British colony.

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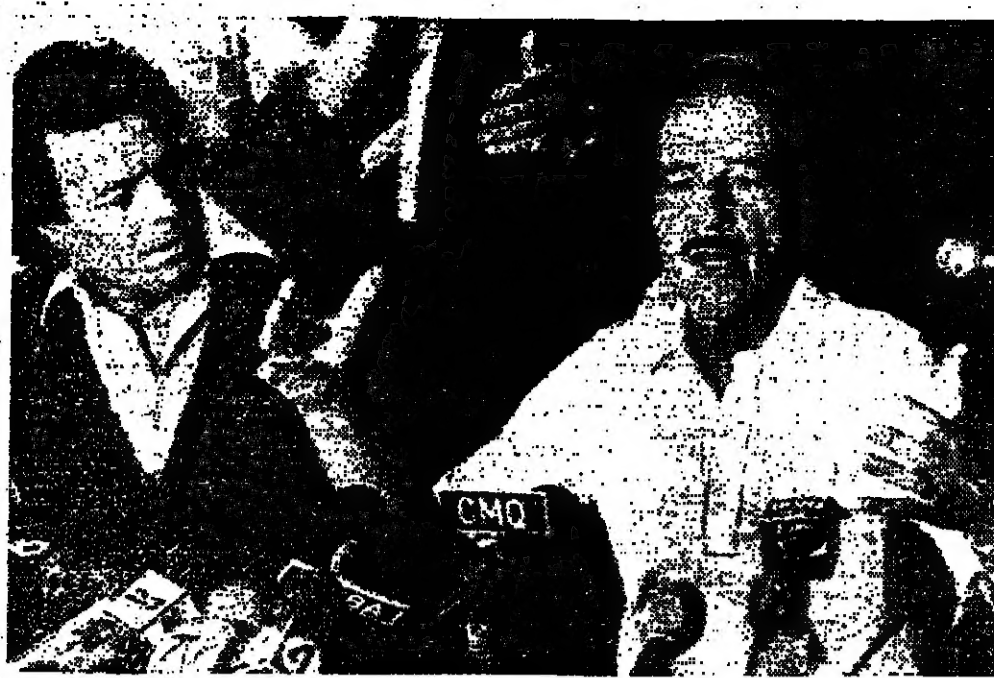
Officials contacted by telephone in Castries, the capital of St Lucia, said that Mr Michael Pilgrim, the deputy leader of the Progressive Labour Party, the smallest party in the House of Assembly, has set about forming an interim Government of National Unity after

the resignation of the Cabinet headed by Mr Winston Cenac. Mr Pilgrim is expected to dissolve the Assembly.

Allegations of widespread corruption have created serious tensions on the island. These allegations came to a head with last week's general strike which was marked by armed attacks on shops which had ignored the strikers' call to close down.

At one point British officials in Washington feared that the situation was deteriorating so rapidly that the British helicopter assault ship *Hermes*, which is on station in the Caribbean, was placed on a standby.

"It looks like the *Hermes* won't be needed now, but we're keeping a close watch on the place," one British official said.



Family reunion: Dr Julio Iglesias facing a battery of cameras and microphones in Miami where he rejoined his family. The doctor, whose son Julio, the Spanish singer, is looking on, spoke of his 19-day ordeal at the hands of kidnappers

France avoids constitution clash

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Jan. 21

Wiser counsels have prevailed in the French Government over the hotheads of the Socialist Party in avoiding a frontal clash with the Constitutional Council and ensuring a smooth and rapid passage for the new draft of the nationalisation bill.

M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, told a press conference this morning that the Government's foremost concern was to avoid the bill being again delayed by the council because of irregularities. This would have unleashed a constitutional crisis involving the council

and President Mitterrand. "I understood I must not take any risks on that plane, and especially not let the President in for any" M. Mauroy said.

The Prime Minister added that the Constitutional Council was not looking for confrontation with the Government. The council endorsed the principle of nationalisation, contrary to the view of the Opposition and the Senate.

M. Mauroy reassured the Government's respect for the constitution, with a veiled warning to the council. A

similar warning was given by the Secretary-General of the Elysee Palace yesterday. He said judicial power could not take precedence over the will of the people and "whoever tried to thwart the implementation of nationalization would commit a serious error."

The Government has also rejected the suggestion by M. Laurent Fabius, the Minister for the Budget, and Socialist and Communist leaders, that the increased cost of the nationalization should be financed by extra taxes on the rich.

Zoo puts to death unwanted tigers

Copenhagen, Jan. 21. — With no room to let them roam freely, Copenhagen Zoo has had to kill three magnificent Bengal tigers because no other zoos would give them a home.

"It's a bit of a paradox," Mr Bent Joergensen, the zoo's managing director, said today. "The tiger is a threatened species in India but in the zoos there is increasing overpopulation."

The 18-month-old tigers were put down yesterday by painless injections, Mr Joergensen said. The Danish Animal Protection Society protested, describing the destruction of the tigers as senseless.

"Emotionally, it does feel senseless, but there just wasn't anything else for us to do," Mr Joergensen said. "Many zoos are facing the same problem with their tigers." He added that he had offered the animals three times to 150 zoos without charge, even indicating that he would pay for their transport if necessary. There were no takers.

"Just 10 years ago the zoos were lining up to buy tigers or tiger cubs," he said. "Now tigers breed so willingly in captivity that there are as many tigers in the zoos as in the Indian jungles — about 2,000."

He added: "Had we turned them all loose in the large open-air pen, the fight for territory and females would have led to a bloodbath."

The American Embassy here said that the two Pentecostals, who have been on hunger strike for three weeks to press their demands to be allowed to leave the embassy and emigrate to the United States were in a stable condition and their weight loss had slowed down.

Augustina Vashchenko, aged 52, and her 31-year-old daughter Lidia are among seven Pentecostals who rushed past Soviet guards in 1978 to seek refuge in the embassy. They said they were being persecuted by the Soviet authorities and would not leave until given exit visas.

The embassy said today that the two women had been taking only liquids, but were now taking a purée of fruit and vegetables which had stopped their weight loss. The Pentecostals say the Americans, who provide them with free food and upkeep, are not doing enough to press their cause.

Last Friday former President Carter telephoned them and also urged them to stop their protest, without success.

The Soviet authorities are understood to be willing to let the seven emigrate providing they return to their home town of Chernogorsk, in Siberia, and fill in the normal application forms.

Siberians ease embassy fast

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, Jan. 21

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There's one company whose aim isn't just survival in 1982.

In fact IAL continues to expand profitably. It is the only British company actively involved in all of the four major growth areas in the world economy for the eighties.

Aviation services. Medical turnkey and consultancy services. Computers. And communications.

The following good-news stories make a healthy change from reading about the gloom.

Mapping the ocean floor.

For years Britannia ruled the waves. Now through a majority investment in Ocean Data Systems Inc. (USA) and its wholly owned subsidiary, Global Weather Dynamics Inc., IAL is about to gain new market opportunities in oceanography, meteorology and digital colour graphics display systems.

A new era in air traffic control.

Last October, the UK Civil Aviation Authority awarded IAL the contract for equipping the London Air Traffic Control Centre with a microprocessor-based voice communications system, IAL Status. This will help to achieve even higher standards in safety and efficiency.

The £150m medical services contract.

Through its associates, the International Hospitals Group, IAL has already started work on a massive £150m medical services contract for the Saudi Arabian National Guard.

The hotel run by computer.

During the past year IAL has masterminded and financed the development of Maxial, a totally new computer based hotel management system. This technology will meet the increasingly sophisticated demands of the hotel and leisure industries, on a worldwide scale.

New factories. More employment.

While cut-backs are the talk of other boardrooms IAL continues to expand.

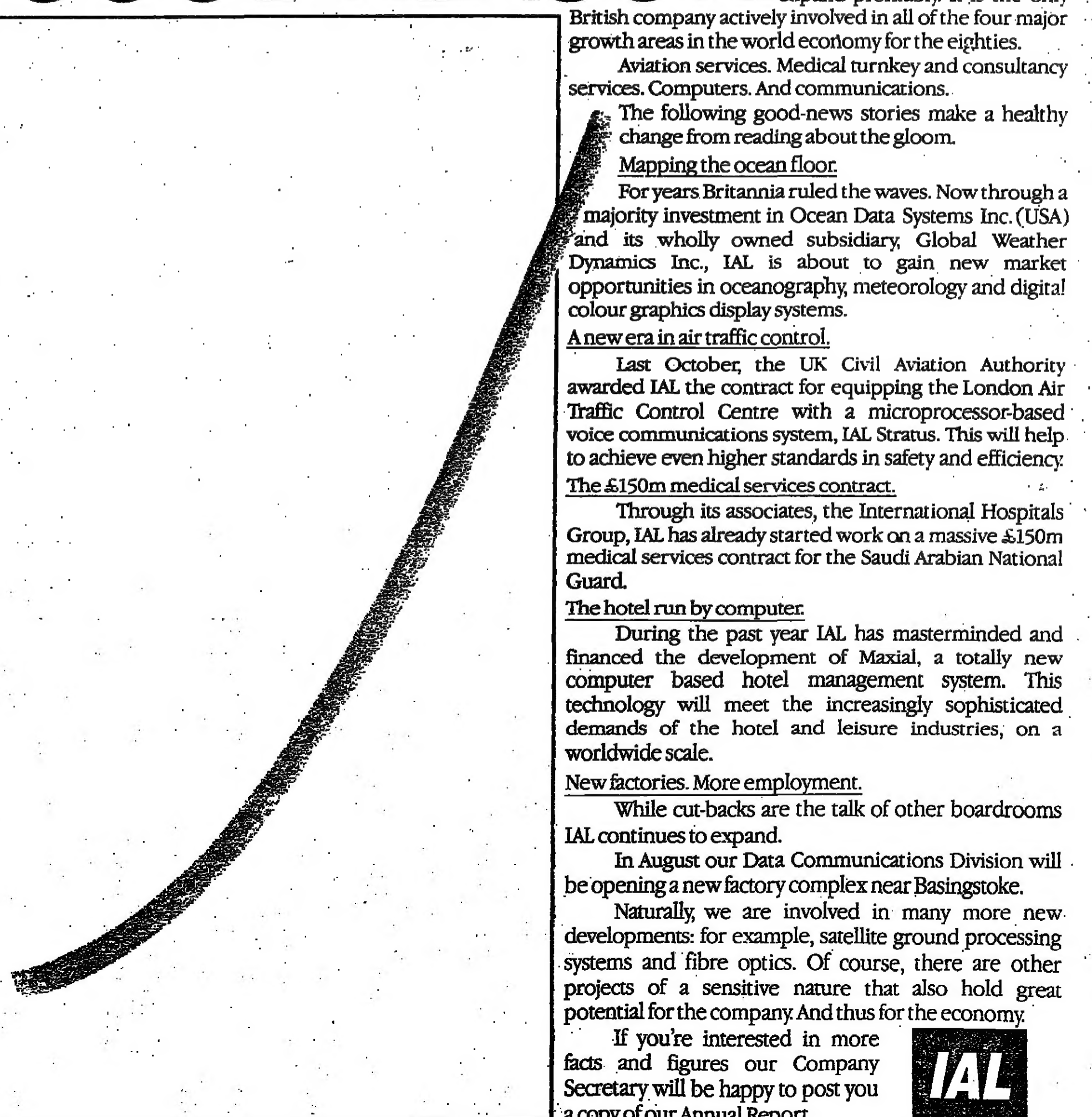
In August our Data Communications Division will be opening a new factory complex near Basingstoke.

Naturally, we are involved in many more new developments: for example, satellite ground processing systems and fibre optics. Of course, there are other projects of a sensitive nature that also hold great potential for the company. And thus for the economy.

If you're interested in more facts and figures our Company Secretary will be happy to post you a copy of our Annual Report.

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THE HIGH TECHNOLOGY TASK FORCE

IF THE FUTURE LOOKS GOOD TO IAL, IT'S FOR GOOD REASON.



NEWS IN SUMMARY

Barred MP may attend US dinner

New York — Mr Owen Carron, Independent Republican MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone, who American immigration officials fear, may be planning to enter the United States via Canada, after arriving unexpectedly in Toronto. (Christopher Thomas writes).

He is planning television appearances to counter the free-trade visit to Canada by the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionists. He was refused a visa to enter the United States last October on the ground that his presence would be prejudicial to the public interest. Mr Paisley was refused a visa for the same reason.

Noraid, the Irish-American group that raises money for the Provisional IRA, has promised to present a "special guest" at its annual dinner in New York next week. Noraid officials in New York would merely say that the proposed guest would be "interesting from the British point of view." The group previously has provided a platform for people entering the country illegally and has received extensive and usually sympathetic publicity each time.

His biggest coup was in August 1979, when Mr Ciaran Nugent, the first IRA man to go on the "blanket protest" at the Maze prison near Belfast, was smuggled in. He was arrested and allowed out bail, and for several weeks he went on a speaking tour of the country.

China's bumper grain harvest

Peking. — China's grain crop last year totalled 325.7 million tonnes, 7.5 million tonnes more than in 1980, the New China news agency said. It was the second biggest harvest ever, exceeded only by the 1979 crop of 332 million tonnes.

The agency said the total was achieved despite a fall of 6.57 million acres in the area under grain and serious flooding in several areas.

Western agricultural experts described the 1981 harvest as highly satisfactory. The news agency attributed the successful harvest to recent measures to encourage peasants to sell privately any crops grown over the state quota.

Skipper denies carrying arms

Naha, Okinawa. — Mr Hideo Takakuwa, captain of the Japanese chemical tanker straddled by Philippine aircraft off Mindanao island, has denied he was carrying arms or terrorists.

The Philippines claims the Hegg was carrying 15m or weapons and explosives but Japanese investigators who boarded the ship before it docked found nothing. Mr Takakuwa said: "It is impossible for us to carry arms or terrorists", and denied ignoring an order to halt.

Angola denies peace talks

The Angolan authorities have denied a flurry of reports that they are about to open negotiations with UNITA, the leading group of Angolan insurgents, and the United States, with which they have no diplomatic relations. (David Cross writes).

Angop, the official Angolan news agency, said in press claims that the Government had sent a message to UNITA offering reconciliation talks had "absolutely no foundation in truth". Angop also denied Washington press reports that official negotiations were about to take place in Paris next week with the United States.

Military regime gets warning

Buenos Aires. — A group of Argentine political parties has warned the military government that unless it changes its course the country's political, economic and social decline will gather force. (Andrew McLeod writes).

Criticising what it said was an economic policy which favoured only a "small minority" traditionally opposed to the interests of the people, the group said in a statement that the people had demanded respect and received only aggression.

Reagan's Easter

Washington. — President Reagan and his wife Nancy are to spend the Easter holiday with Claude Colbert, one of his old Hollywood friends, at his winter home in Barbados. It will be his first trip out of the country since last October's North-South summit in Cancun, Mexico.

Cocaine haul

Sao Paulo. — Brazilian police seized 83lb of cocaine, their biggest ever haul, worth \$3m at street prices, in two swoops in which three were arrested. They claimed to have broken into a network smuggling cocaine from Bolivia and Colombia to the Brazilian city of Manaus, then Sao Paulo, and finally the United States. — Reuter.

Poland in danger of civil war, 26 bishops say

Warsaw, Jan. 21. — Poland's Roman Catholic bishops warned the military regime in a statement made available today that martial law could provoke protest, rebellion and even civil war. (Reuter reports).

The statement will be read as a pastoral letter from the pulpits of the 16,000 churches in this overwhelmingly Catholic nation this Sunday or next. It demanded the restoration of freedoms revoked after martial law was proclaimed on December 13 and a resumption of political dialogue.

It was signed by the diocesan bishops and by the primate, Archbishop Jozef Glemp, who has already denounced the martial law authorities three times from the pulpit.

The 26 leading bishops met in Warsaw earlier this week and resolved to send a letter to General Wojciech Jaruzelski, leader of the ruling Military Council, at the same time as issuing their pastoral message. They said that all those on whom it depends to respect freedom, especially freedom of conscience and belief, to meet half way the love of freedom which is so dear to our nation, the message said.

"Respect for this freedom should result in normal functioning, quick release of all detainees, cessation of all duress on ideological grounds and dismissals from work for political views or trade union membership", the message said.

In effect, the bishops are demanding an end to martial law. The mention of "duress on ideological grounds" referred to the loyalty oaths which state employees were being asked to make under

the threat of losing their jobs.

"We make it clear that for the sake of freedom, the right to organize independent unions and youth associations must be restored", the bishops added. "Real peace stems from the respect for freedom and correct understanding of everyone's right to freedom of the right to freedom and respect for freedom by those who govern and are governed — this is what is actually meant by social justice."

"It is the only justice which is a foundation of peace", the bishops said. "Let us state emphatically that infringement of the right to freedom leads to protest, rebellion and even civil war."

The curbing of freedom which belongs to man leads to protest, rebellion and even war, another passage stated.

The bishops called for a resumption of social and political talks between the authorities and society. "The dialogue may be difficult but it is not impossible. Everyone expects this dialogue. We as bishops appeal for the elimination of the wave of growing hatred, vengeance and revenge. These activities infringe human dignity, curb civil rights and thus inhibit national accord."

More than 150 Solidarity activists have been jailed for organizing strikes or other protests since martial law was proclaimed, according to official figures available today. They were sentenced under Article 6 of the martial law decrees which stipulates automatic jail sentences for organizing strikes.

EEC's £18m aid may go to charities

From Ian Murray Brussels, Jan 21

Money set aside for providing cut-price food for Poland should instead be made available to charities distributing humanitarian aid in the country. That idea by the European Commission is to be put to the EEC foreign ministers for approval when they hold their formal meeting in Brussels on Tuesday.

The amount of money involved is the £18m which has been made available by the Commission to enable EEC countries to sell food to Poland at 15 per cent below world prices.

The Commission will discuss with the three main organizations operating in Poland — Caritas, the Red Cross and Medicines Sans Frontières — the money can best be spent.

In Strasbourg yesterday, Mr Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Foreign Minister, and the new chairman of the Council of Ministers, said that the Commission's decision, would need endorsement at the next council meeting on Monday, (George Clark writes).

The main object was to ensure that special food aid got to the right people. Normal food sales would continue.

A decision on the proposal is likely to be the only concrete decision on Poland taken by the council when it meets on Monday. It is under mounting pressure from the United States to agree a package of sanctions against the Polish military regime and the Soviet Union.

Meetings in Brussels this week of technical experts and permanent directors from member states have failed to agree a package. Measures under review include: a ban on the import of Russian vodka and caviar; restrictions on the movements of Soviet and Polish diplomats; and a recommendation that the Soviet Union by the OECD as "relatively rich country" which would force its suppliers to pay more for their export credits.

Technical measures will be brought up during Saturday's meeting at Nato of technical experts.

Moscow: The Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (Comecon), the Soviet trading block, together with Yugoslavia, today condemned American sanctions against Moscow and Warsaw while promising to do all they could to support Poland's efforts to strengthen law and order. The Western measures were dubbed "a sordid act" (Michael Binyon writes).

A statement issued after a regular meeting at the Comecon headquarters here said the 10 member-countries resolutely reject all actions by the United States Administration and the other Nato countries directed at interference in the internal affairs of the Polish People's Republic.

Paris: The meeting of the Coe's Committee for Multilateral Exports Controls (Cocom) which ended in Paris yesterday was revised completely the list of strategic materials and of methods of controlling their export to east European countries, (Charles Hargrove writes).

Hungarian Church in conflict

Esztogom, Hungary, Jan. 21. — A large and growing network of independent believers, most of them critical of their Church and the Communist state in which they live, has become a thorn in the side of Hungary's Catholic hierarchy.

The tastes of the so-called "basic communities", private prayer and study groups, whose outspoken views have grown over the past year, ranges from quiet reflection to exorcism, from ignorance of all politics to controversial views such as pacifism.

Senior Church sources said that as many as 100,000 of Hungary's seven million Roman Catholics may have opted for this more active form of faith so many, that the state has begun pressing the Catholic hierarchy to reestablish control over its congregation.

Cardinal Laszlo Lekai, Hungary's primate, admitted his difficulties with the more radical activists who consider him almost a traitor for cooperating with the authorities and emphasising practical issues such as new church buildings and religious education.

He also described his critics as fanatics, defended the disciplining of two priests who advocated pacifism, and argued in favour of strong national defence.

The question of who is destroying what within the Church is hard to answer amid the accusations heard here and abroad.

Conservative Catholics in the West, including the Pope, feel that the Hungarian hierarchy is too ready to compromise with the atheist state. The radical basic communities make the same accusation, but from the opposite side.

Cardinal Lekai and his followers say that their critics destroy the Catholic unity needed to press for the gradual improvements that can be won from the relatively moderate state.

The basic communities, which caused a flurry here in the mid 1970s, returned to prominence last summer when Budapest priest was dismissed for preaching a pacifist sermon to 700 young Catholics.

Father Laszlo Kovacs ignored orders from Cardinal Lekai not to speak after the young pilgrims asked him to give his views on conscientious objection, which is recognized here only for sects such as the Jehovah's Witnesses. After Father Kovacs was sent to a rural parish for six months, Father Andras Gromon from Szekesfehervar criticized the Primate's decision. He was also promptly transferred to the countryside.

These actions led to a wave of protest letters to Cardinal Lekai. One from a group of priests accused him of using "unbiblical methods to control a people who did not agree with him. The cardinal, who is 71, retorted with a ringing defence of the military vessel, and added that the assignment to a Turkish unit of a Nato mission within the area of responsibility of the Greek Navy implied "an intention to alter existing arrangements on operational jurisdiction in the Aegean".

One year in the White House How Reagan escapes blame for his policies

From Michael Hamlyn, New York, Jan 21

As the President of the United States enters his second year of office there is a paradox about the way the public regards him.

"Things" — the economy, unemployment, inflation, Soviet relations and so on — are widely perceived to be terrible. By and large, President's policies are blamed to a considerable extent for making them so. But, by and large also, those policies are expected to make them better eventually.

At the same time the President, affable, charming, witty, good on public occasions, is well liked.

In a national telephone survey, carried out by CBS news and The New York Times, 60 per cent of those questioned thought that Mr Reagan's economic programme would eventually help the country's economy. Amongst those with incomes of \$20,000 a year or more the percentage rose to 80.

That highest income section of the population also gave Mr Reagan the highest approval rating — 69 per cent of them think that he is doing a good job.

But he got the lowest approval rating ever recorded by the black community. Only eight per cent approved of him and that is down from a not very encouraging 14 per cent when the poll was last taken in November.

This general approval rating, weighed down perhaps by the hostility from the poor and blacks, has slipped over recent months until he has the approval of only 49 per cent of those questioned —

lower than President Carter's rating after one year of his Administration. But the younger generation are holding up well. Fifty-six per cent of 18 to 29-year-olds approve.

The great liberal newspapers are vehement in their denunciation of the President. The Washington Post, for instance, published a report on his press conference this week, that virtually amounts to a line-by-line denunciation.

"The President defended his economic record with a string of figures on unemployment, every one of which was inaccurate," it says. "The President did not mention..." says the fourth paragraph of the report. "The ignored the fact that..." it continues, in as hostile a piece of reporting as possible. The Los Angeles Times runs a syndicated column by David Broder who writes: "The moral meanness of the Reagan Administration has been in evidence constantly: in its indifference to civil rights for blacks or equal rights for women, in its attack on legal services for the poor, and in the President's own cruel remark that those who cannot find good jobs or schools or services where they live should 'vote with their feet' and move on."

"Even when the Reagan Administration decided to distribute cheese to the poor, bringing on scenes of Depression-era soup kitchens in the nation's capital, it did so, not from a desire to relieve their hunger, but from a desire to cut government spending."

The Chicago Tribune,

which supported the election of Mr Reagan in 1979, now, has severe doubts about his economic policy, thinking that the budget deficit is so important that the tax cuts ought not to have taken place. But it concludes: "Mr Reagan was elected by a majority who were disillusioned with the continuing inability of big government to solve our problems, and who welcomed the prospect of something different."

"Few of them knew or could agree on precisely what they wanted, but it had a good deal to do with 'getting government off our back and encouraging our self-reliance as individuals'."

"For all the Reagan Administration's stumbling and for all the promises that would be better unkept, it has moved the country in the direction towards which the election pointed. This in itself is reason not to write it off as a failure. It is reason rather to say that if the Reagan Administration can win the crucial battle of inflation it will almost certainly go down in history as a resounding success."

Similarly the Christian Science Monitor in Boston tempers its enthusiasm with a modicum of reservation on the economy:

"It is clear that his can-do political style, his mastery of Congress, his buoyant temperament, and amiability have kept him relatively high in the opinion polls despite some deepening public scepticism about his economic policies. His old-fashioned conservatism may stir objection from labour, liberals,

and some minority groups, but there is no denying his skills as a leader.

"Will his economic recipes work? The national judgment is still out though doubts grow in many quarters. But if we were to single out the most salient fact about the Reagan presidency to date, it is perhaps Mr Reagan's inclination to do what works. He has shown in one year — as he did as Governor of California — that he is more the flexible pragmatist than the hidebound ideologue. Without retreating on his convictions and goals, he seems prepared to shift tactics in achieving them. That may prove to be a saving trait given the difficulties the nation must work out of — and the absence of a consensus on how to do this."

But the real test of the President's popularity can be shown not in the high and mighty newspapers, but in the industrial mid-west. "How will it play in Peoria?" is a question often asked by members of Mr Reagan's former profession. The Wall Street Journal, in an effort to test this, assembled a group of blue-collar workers not in Peoria, but in Akron, Ohio, with fascinating results.

Mr Larry Michaels, a 35-year-old blue-collar worker, was contemptuous of Mr Reagan's tax cut. "Without a \$30 billion tax cut," he said, "then maybe he would have only a \$70 billion budget deficit."

Mr Robert Oplinger, aged 55, a retired fireman, agreed and argued that the tax cut unfairly favoured big busi-

ness. Neither Mr Oplinger nor one of his neighbours, Mrs Loretta Grogg, were very happy about the near-11 per cent unemployment in the industrial city. A year ago the rate was under 10 per cent.

But Mrs Grogg, whose husband and son were laid off at a Chrysler plant last year, doubts if unemployment is causing sleepless nights for President Reagan. "I don't think he considers people like us too much," she said.

These views make Akron appear a hotbed of anti-Reagan sentiment. The tone changed, however, when the same three voters were asked directly how the President was doing. "Compared with the last two presidents or so, I think he's doing a good job," Mr Michaels said.

Asked to grade the President, Mr Oplinger said: "Given everything he has to struggle with, I'd give him an A." Mrs Grogg, a lifelong Democrat, recalled that she voted for Mr Reagan 14 years ago and says: "I'm glad I did."

The Wall Street Journal concludes that times are very tough for these blue-collar Americans: many have experienced layoffs and the immediate families over the past year. But they blame past government actions more than present policies.

"I feel we're kind of on the bottom part of the graph, that we've been going downhill since Reagan came over," said James Petty, a fence builder. "But I don't blame Reagan for this."

Kissinger clash, page 7



Three-up for these Afghan guerrillas leaving on reconnaissance missions in Kandahar province along tracks impassable to military lorries and tanks.

Houses built for Russians in Kabul

The building of more residential areas here for the families of civilian advisers is seen as further evidence that the Soviet Union plans a long stay in Afghanistan.

In Kabul the Russians live in tight security. The families of the estimated 10,000 Soviet civilian advisers shop in groups, travel in military vehicles and keep close to their guards. Afghan shopkeepers treat them with indifference and, at times, open hostility.

At the same time, the 30,000-strong Afghan army is in poor shape. The recruiting drive of last summer which required all men under 35 to report for

a second period of military service appears to have failed, in spite of generous pay increases. The army is thinly spread across 14 incomplete units. Morale is low, and the rate of desertion is high.

An estimated 10,000 men due to leave the army last month have not been demobilized, partly, it is thought, because the Russians do not want them to defect to the guerrillas.

The mujahidin guerrillas have kept 12 Soviet divisions fully stretched for two years trying to maintain a semblance of law and order.

Of about 15 big mujahidin groups operating within the country, six are actually important. They have depended on the terrain for shelter and popular sympathy for support, although the poverty of the Afghan countryside has restricted the latter and the Russians are quickly learning their way around the former.

Afghanistan's economy has steadily become more closely linked with that of the Soviet Union. The latest figures show that exports to Russia, mainly natural gas, have tripled. All Afghanistan's gas goes across the Soviet frontier.

Albanians begin the purge

From Dossa Trevisan Belgrade, Jan 21

As the Albanian media increases its praise for Mr Enver Hoxha, the party leader, with the intention to leave no doubt that he is firmly in command, the belief that the death of Mr Mehmet Shehu, the Prime Minister, was the result of a showdown between the two Politburo members strengthens.

It was given added credence in diplomatic reports of the disappearance of people who are believed to have had close connections with Mr Shehu.

Mr Shehu, nephew, Mr Pecor Shehu, who until last week was Minister of the Interior, was dropped in the cabinet reshuffle immediately after Mr Adil Carcani became the head of government — the only hard information so far offered by the Albanians themselves.

But, diplomatic sources in Tirana also believe that Mr Shehu's widow, Mrs Fiereta Sandakari, has lost her post on the Central Committee and in the party's school of which she was the head. The latest report of a purge comes from Bucharest where it is believed to involve Mr Isidre Shehu, another close relative of the late Prime Minister, and a political counsellor at the Albanian Embassy.

According to the sources, before the Prime Minister's alleged suicide he was in Tirana. He did not return to his post and diplomats are inclined to connect his disappearance with the ousting of Mr Shehu's relatives and supporters.

But precise information on the fate of those who have disappeared has been given, as a rule, by Mr Hoxha personally and generally a long time after the event.

Mr Hoxha has just recalled the history of Albania's relations with the United States and Britain in order to drive home the lesson that they were and remain bitter enemies of his regime.

The timing of the publication of what the Albanian news agency describes as the latest book of his memoirs devoted to alleged Anglo-American plots against Albania, may not be mere coincidence.

A news agency, emphasizing the importance of past lessons, has said that there is a need for vigilance in order to avoid "falling into traps".

Publication is clearly designed to prove that the two countries were hostile to the Communist regime from the outset, although it does not necessarily put down arguments within Albania for the resumption of diplomatic relations or of Albania establishing closer links with the West.

Britain is especially singled out for its alleged wartime and postwar attitudes which, Mr Hoxha says, was aimed at putting feudal chiefs in power. The agency said the book should "enhance vigilance and open the eyes against sham friends in order not to be taken by surprise". At the same time it hails Mr Hoxha's "lofty revolutionary vigilance" and uncompromising attitudes in unmasking, defeating and destroying "enemies".

Whether this is a prelude to a big purge is unclear.

NATO MOVE FEARED BY GREECE

From Mario Modiano Athens, Jan 21

The bizarre episode of the appearance of a Turkish gunboat near Athens on a Nato mission has aroused concern here that the alliance may give in to Turkey's demand for a share of operational jurisdiction in the Aegean, which had been exclusively assigned to Greece.

The gunboat was sighted last week by the captain of a Greek island ferry three and a half miles off the southern tip of Euboea Island, inside Greek territorial waters. The news was leaked in an opposition newspaper and the Government promptly announced it had lodged a protest to Ankara for the violation of Greek sovereignty.

But 24 hours later the Turks rejected the protest. A Government spokesman in Athens said that the Turkish ship had not violated Greek territorial waters since it was entitled to do so under the rule of "innocent passage".

The Greek Defence Ministry later said the authorities had been aware of the presence of the Turkish vessel, and added that the assignment to a Turkish unit of a Nato mission within the area of responsibility of the Greek Navy implied "an intention to alter existing arrangements on operational jurisdiction in the Aegean".

European Tories likely to oust their leader

From George Clark, Strasbourg, Jan 21

Soundings taken among members of the 63-strong Conservative (Conservative) Group in the European Parliament today indicated that Sir James Scott-Hopkins, MEP for Hereford and Worcester, is likely to be deposed as their leader at the group's annual meeting in London on February 11.

The favourite among the three challengers is Sir Henry Plumb, MEP for the Cotswolds and former president of the National Farmers' Union. It is believed that the approval of Mrs Margaret Thatcher who has the leadership of the Conservatives in her gift.

But the group includes also one Ulster Unionist and two Danes and, theoretically, could elect someone of whom Mrs Thatcher disapproves.

There are four candidates in the field: Sir James, Sir Henry, Sir Fred Catherwood, MEP for Cambridgeshire — former director-general of the British Overseas Trade Board — and Mr John Mark Taylor, MEP for Midlands, East, a former leader of the Conservatives in the West Midlands County Council.

Mr Brian Hord, MEP for London, West was mentioned as a possible candidate but he decided not to stand.

Sir James is particularly

TERRORISTS JAILED IN VIENNA

From David Blow Vienna, Jan 21

A Vienna court today sentenced two Arab terrorists to life imprisonment. Muhammad Rajih, aged 21, and Hassan Marwan, aged 26, were both found guilty by a jury on a number of charges, including murder.

The charges arose from an attack they planned in August on the Vienna synagogue when two passers-by were killed and 20 injured.

In Austria, a life sentence usually means not less than 15 years' imprisonment.

The trial left unresolved the terrorist murder of Herr Heinz Nittel, a Vienna councillor, who was head of the Israel-Austria Friendship Society and was shot dead outside his home last May.

Mr Rajih had also been charged with this but the jury found him guilty only of complicity in the murder.

Mr Rajih told the court that the terrorist group for which he worked, a splinter group of the Palestine Liberation Organisation known as Al-Asifa, had planned to kidnap Dr Bruno Kreisky, the Austrian Chancellor, but dropped the idea.

Mr Marwan also said that he felt free to carry out the attack after two Arabs who were arrested at Vienna airport for attempting to smuggle in arms were simply expelled from Austria.

Miners blown up

Craynor, Kentucky. — Seven miners, four of the same family, were killed in an explosion inside an eastern Kentucky coal mine.

Hill tribesman describes Laos chemical attack

From David Watts, Bangkok, Jan 21

A young resistance fighter has reached Thailand with evidence of a chemical attack in Laos last month.

After a month's trek through south-west Laos he told investigators that the attack had killed a number of his people, among hill tribesmen, and left him with the symptoms associated with such reported attacks: dizziness, vomiting, diarrhoea and severe itching of the skin.

The man in his mid-thirties, said the attack took place on December 12 in a mountainous area mid-way between the towns of Luang Prabang and the old royal capital of Laos at Luang Prabang. This places the raid somewhat further north of previously reported chemical attacks in Laos.

He said that he was assigned to guard an agricultural area some distance from his home village in the Muong Kessy area on the day of the attack. As soon as he heard a jet aircraft approaching he took cover because he had been the victim of three previous gas attacks.

Reports have indicated the use of Soviet-built Mig 19 jet fighters in earlier chemical warfare raids, but the man did not see the aircraft as he stayed in a shelter until it had circled three times over the area and flown away.

His testimony is similar to other accounts of such alleged raids in which the aircraft apparently first circle the area for target

identification, circle again to make the attack and then a third time for visual or photographic observation of the results.

In this instance it is not clear precisely what the target was. There was a sizable village not far from where the man was hiding but when he emerged from the hut, according to the investigator, the field was covered with sticky yellow spots the size of grains of rice.

It is believed he survived because he did not come into contact with this sticky substance. He walked back to his home village, an hour's trek away, and became ill overnight with protruding eyes, dizziness, vomiting and diarrhoea as well as severe itching which persisted for days despite repeated washing.

He apparently felt well enough to return to the village close to the field next day where the villagers told him that a number of people had died, including two children. He saw people lying dead in the village and others appeared to be weak as a result of the attack. The villagers said that the bodies of those who died turned blackish-brown quite quickly after death.

The reported attack could have been directed either at the village or at the fields where they grow opium and vegetables. The opium crop is

Tax purge ends Bonn party tricks

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Jan 21

West Germany's political parties are searching for a face-saving way out of an embarrassingly tight corner.

Several ministers and prominent politicians are under investigation for alleged tax frauds to raise party funds.

All parties, government and opposition, are in this together. None can deny that for years it has used certain devices to get round the restrictive laws on political donations. Now the public prosecutors are on their tracks.

One trick, it is believed, was to form a well-wishers' fund, ostensibly charitable or public-service organizations connected with the parties which would then send them to party contacts abroad. These in turn would reconvert the money — "washed" of its real origins — to the party in West Germany. Another was to have sent the money directly to a contact organization abroad, which would send it back home.

The reason, it is thought, is that firms and organizations can claim substantial donations against their taxes so long as they are made to charitable or public welfare associations.

Donations to political parties can be set against taxes only if they are below DM1,800 (£400) in any year. Moreover, donors of sums over DM20,000 must be identified by name in the party's annual report.

At the same time the party receives the whole donation without paying tax on it. Another suspected trick was for firms to pay large sums of money for advertising in the various party organs which was never printed.

The Kissinger bombshell

Why I am critical of Reagan's foreign policy

by Henry Kissinger

Dr Kissinger, Secretary of State from 1973 to 1977, is the author of *The White House Years* and is Professor of International Relations at Georgetown University in Washington.

Washington

Every administration enters office determined to change the world. Sooner or later, however, it is confronted by the stark reality of its assumptions and procedures. It is the making of the administration if it is prepared to examine itself seriously and to draw the necessary conclusions. If that test is failed, if energy is expended on rationalizing the status quo, mounting crises and disarray are inevitable. In that sense, the grace period for the Reagan administration ended on Dec. 13 when tanks took over the streets of Poland.

During the months before the 1980 election, I campaigned for Ronald Reagan, convinced that a change was in the overwhelming national interest. I continue to believe that the administration embodies the best chance for free peoples, that its success is of vital importance for our country and those that depend on it. And yet it is precisely its friends who have a duty to warn when a crisis like Poland reveals fissures and uncertainties that, if continued, may become unmanageable.

It took four weeks after military law was declared in Poland before the foreign ministers of NATO managed to assemble in council to consider a "response." Thousands of Solidarity leaders were meanwhile whithering in concentration camps; scores of intellectuals had been arrested; strikes had been broken; freedom-loving Poles who looked West saw dithering procrastinations, sophisticated justifications for impotence, or rhetoric incapable of rising to serious action. And when the ministers at last met, the alliance expressed regret about Soviet complicity but then responded with a non sequitur — that action should be postponed.

The emptiness of the western reaction to Poland has consequences far beyond the tragedy of the Polish people. It underlines and compounds the disarray of the Western alliance. It symbolizes the lack of consensus on what constitutes security, and the near panic in the face of Soviet military power. East-West diplomacy, which should reflect a balance between strength and conciliation, is in danger of turning into a safety valve by which the Soviets mitigate the impact of their aggressions. Trade and economic relationships originally conceived as incentives for Soviet restraint are becoming instruments of potential blackmail not used by us but against us.

Today the West seems clearly less prepared than Moscow is to interrupt these relationships. It would be some small comfort if this state of affairs could be laid exclusively to European hesitations. Europe's leaders have little to be proud of. But neither have we put forward a clear signal. European fecklessness is bedeviling an ally. It is not the sole cause of western difficulties.

Events in Poland no doubt presented the West with a serious dilemma. We had no military option and it would have been wrong to conduct ourselves as if we had. The West has been understandably reluctant to encourage the Polish people into open resistance that we would not then support. On the other hand, statesmen are ultimately responsible for the consequences of dilemmas, but by their ability to conceive alternatives.

From the first day of the repression in Poland, arguments for inaction have cascaded forth — and, if we are truthful with ourselves, not only from the West but from the Soviet side. We must not respond too vigorously or history would blame us if the Polish people decided to resist. It was also said that the West's response should be a measured one in order not to destroy the possibility of eventual tolerance for some diversity held out by the early proclamations of the Polish military government.

Then restraint was urged to remove the incentive for Soviet intervention. Next we heard that our allies must not be driven into neutralism by rash action. In any event, as we have said, Poland had been conceded to the Soviets by the Yalta agreement, which was legitimized by the Helsinki accords.

And now we hear that despite the flagrant violation of the Helsinki accords, the high-level diplomatic contact must continue and indeed be intensified. The worse the crisis, so the argument runs, the more important such contacts are — even a meeting of the Soviet and American foreign ministers, even a summit conference.

These arguments reflect the principle that existing frontiers in Europe would not be changed by force — hardly relevant to the situation in Poland. But it also established international standards on human rights — standards that are being flouted daily.

The problem of economic sanctions is difficult, but not maddeningly so as the West's response seemed to suggest. And the West had readily at hand an instrument even more significant than trade — Poland's colossal debt to



Ouch!

the threats of action unless conditions eased — missed the two principal points. First, time was on the Soviet side. The longer martial law lasted, the more the Polish people's resistance, conditions would eventually become opposition had been smashed. Second, the only chance of saving anything would have been a western reaction so immediate, so clear, so beyond rhetoric, so strong — and at the same time leaving open a road for negotiation — as to have given some pause to the Soviet Union and raise some thought of compromise.

The prospects for this were admittedly slim; but even these prospects vanished completely when the West carefully rehearsed reasons why nothing should be done and so tacitly, unintentionally, colluded with the martial law.

The fear of allied reaction to a more resolute policy seems to me similarly unwarranted. No doubt our allies expressed their unhappiness from the beginning about any effort to make the Soviets pay a heavy price. But I would argue that we were in a better position to challenge our allies over Poland, with respect to which I suspect European publics are more clear-sighted than their governments, than over the Middle East or Central America, which will be the next objects of contention. And, in the end, it is we who must lead in this alliance.

We have a duty to make clear that restraint must be mutual. We must defend the policy of coexistence by defining not only its possibilities but also its limits. If we equate policy with a consensus of the fearful, we encourage the sense of impotence that breeds pacifism. Moderation is a virtue only in those who are thought to have an alternative.

As for Yalta and Helsinki, there is something self-destructive in almost monochromatic in the West's penchant to sell itself short. Yalta did consign Poland to the Soviet sphere of influence, but it also provided for free elections in Poland — quite the opposite of what is now happening. Helsinki accepted the principle that existing frontiers in Europe would not be changed by force — hardly relevant to the situation in Poland. But it also established international standards on human rights — standards that are being flouted daily.

The problem of economic sanctions is difficult, but not maddeningly so as the West's response seemed to suggest. And the West had readily at hand an instrument even more significant than trade — Poland's colossal debt to

western banks, and its admitted need for \$1,500m of new capital from the West every quarter in 1982 just to stay afloat.

And this — unlike trade embargoes, which almost daily pose questions about whether and how long they should be continued — requires only a single decision. Yet the sixth week of the crisis finds us still without a common policy on whether the allied governments will permit our private financial institutions to administer those essential transfusions of western savings into the Polish economy.

Whatever can be said about the difficulty of economic sanctions does not apply to diplomatic intercourse, however. Here the decision whether to proceed is in executive control; no congressional action is required. No private interests are at stake. Allied involvement in our bilateral dealings is at a minimum.

How then is one to reconcile the assertion that the Soviet Union is to blame for the suppression of Poland's freedoms with our continued participation in the Madrid Conference on the very Helsinki agreements that are violated so utterly in Poland? What is the compulsion to promote a Brezhnev-Reagan summit in these circumstances? What are our allies — and other interested parties, for that matter — to make of the simultaneous pursuit of sanctions and high-level talks?

We scarcely need Madrid to castigate the Soviet Union; Washington and the United Nations would serve the purpose equally well and less embarrassingly. Foreign ministers' summit meetings can be useful, but not when their preparation goes blithely ahead — and is even accelerated — at the very moment that the first buds of freedom are being crushed in Central Europe. It cannot be national policy that we multiply high-level contacts during crises caused by the Soviet Union unless we want to give the Soviets an incentive to produce more crises.

I criticize with reluctance a foreign policy produced in part by so many friends and former comrades of difficult battles. They and their colleagues retain my full confidence. I applaud their dedication to a policy of coexistence. But they will not achieve this goal unless they devise penalties for intransigence together with incentives for moderation. Peace, to be meaningful or lasting, must ultimately reflect not only an accommodation but a sense of justice.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Police club students and monks

Colombo. — Police wielding batons charged students and monks protesting outside Parliament. The debate began on a White Paper which opponents claim threatens the future of free education in Sri Lanka (Donovan Moldrich writes).

Women students were bundled into police vans and driven away as the demonstration was broken up. There have also been demonstrations and boycotts of lectures at all the universities.

Mr Ranil Wickremesinghe, Minister of Education, says instigators of such protest should be horsewhipped.

Sri Lanka has had free education since 1944 but the Government is cutting subsidies and there are widespread fears the whole structure of public education will be dismantled.

The Government has assisted in setting up private colleges with extremely high fees when only a small percentage of those who qualify for university can find a place.

Soviet protest to US over boy

Moscow. — The Russians have sent a tough Note, one of several in the past year, to the American Embassy here demanding the return of Vladimir Polovchak, the 14-year-old Ukrainian boy who has been granted political asylum in the United States (Michael Binyon writes).

The Note described as inhuman the decision by the United States Attorney-General to overturn a recent court ruling in Illinois and stop the boy leaving the country. It said the American action ran counter to the elementary norms of international law, and was a "gross violation" of the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act.

Iranian embassy occupiers jailed

Stockholm. — Twenty-eight dissident Iranians who occupied their country's embassy in Stockholm in a protest against executions carried out by the Khomeini regime, have been jailed for eight months by a Stockholm court. Notice of appeal against the sentences was given.

The occupation, last August, ended peacefully when the police stormed the building.

Shots fired in Mizoram clash

Delhi. — The union territory of Mizoram in the northeast, was the scene of firing between the police and followers of the banned Mizo National Front (Kuldip Nagar writes).

According to official sources, there were no casualties. Aizawl, the territory's capital, has been under a dusk-to-dawn curfew since yesterday, and arrests were reported.

The mizos are fighting for an independent Mizoram and some of them have been trained in China and returned with weapons.

Killer typhoon

Jakarta. — A typhoon which hit the central Java district of Sleman killed 12 people and injured 123. It had earlier struck the tourist island of Bali killing three villagers.

Labour poised to win Sydney by-election

From Douglas Aiton, Melbourne, Jan 21

Australia's first serious political activity for 1982 will be the by-election for the Sydney seat of Lowe, to be held on March 13.

The by-election has been brought about by the retirement of the long-serving Sir William McMahon, former Prime Minister. Sir William, aged 73, was always something of a maverick in the Liberal Party and the timing of his resignation was in typical style. He chose a time embarrassing to Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, and it is well known that the two men never saw eye to eye.

Sir William could have held on until next year's election. His earlier retirement can only damage the Liberal Party since he held particularly sensitive seats and always held it by virtue of his own popularity with the electorate.

Yesterday even Mr Fraser conceded that it was unlikely that the Liberal Party could expect to hold the seat. On a radio programme he said that it was a disadvantage to the Liberals that Sir William had such a large personal following in Lowe; that there would be the normal anti-government sentiment by which a man like Sir William won only by a whisker anyway at the 1980 election.

He ended by saying: "Labour would have to win by an absolutely massive



Sir William McMahon: A political maverick to the end.

amount to be able to claim any significant victory."

Labour might do just that. In any case, they are almost certain to win the seat, because they need a swing of only 1.2 per cent to do so. Neither the Liberals nor Labour have yet named their candidate; but Mr Fraser is expected to start campaigning on February 22.

Sir William is, as usual, unrepentant about his behaviour. He has had clashes with the Prime Minister and other Government leaders recently about the government handling of the economy.

Beware of the thaw in France, drivers told

From George Clark, Strasbourg, Jan 21

A warning to British lorry drivers and haulage firms to avoid French areas where a *barrière de dégel* (thaw barrier) is in force was given at the European Parliament yesterday by Mr Alasdair Hutton, Conservative MEP for South Scotland.

He has been told of the plight of a Scottish lorry driver, Mr Willie Sommerville, employed by Currie's of Dumfries, who was stopped on the road from Abbeville to Bernay in the Pas de Calais on Monday.

Carrying a 29-ton load of polyester film from the ICI factory in Dumfries to an ICI establishment in Switzerland, he was stopped and had his lorry impounded by the French law which said that under French law once a barrier is imposed in a thaw area lorry weights on minor roads are restricted to 12 tonnes.

Mr Sommerville was taken to court in Amiens and fined £150. He cannot move his vehicle fully loaded until the restriction is lifted.

After contacting his firm, he is trying to arrange for part of the load to be transferred to a small French lorry so that he can proceed to a highway where there is no restriction and the load can be united and he can proceed to Switzerland. Mr Sommerville reported that over 100 lorries are held up because of the restrictions.

Mr Hutton said the driver had claimed that the restriction was imposed after he had entered the area and he had no means of knowing about it.

The French authorities claim that the greatest damage is done to roads during wintery conditions when a thaw comes and that is why the weight restriction is imposed.

At the same time the parties are racking their brains for substitute sources of funds. In any event, as we have said, Poland had been conceded to the Soviets by the Yalta agreement, which was legitimized by the Helsinki accords.

And now we hear that despite the flagrant violation of the Helsinki accords, the high-level diplomatic contact must continue and indeed be intensified. The worse the crisis, so the argument runs, the more important such contacts are — even a meeting of the Soviet and American foreign ministers, even a summit conference.

These arguments reflect the principle that existing frontiers in Europe would not be changed by force — hardly relevant to the situation in Poland. But it also established international standards on human rights — standards that are being flouted daily.

The problem of economic sanctions is difficult, but not maddeningly so as the West's response seemed to suggest. And the West had readily at hand an instrument even more significant than trade — Poland's colossal debt to

Kashmir claim to peace role

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad, Jan 21

the voice of all Kashmir people being considered.

Sardar Ibrahim, who has headed the Azad Kashmir government three times in 31 years, urged General Zia to restore the constitutional framework and democracy in Azad Kashmir. There was no valid ground to suppress the constitutional process.

He demanded that the Pakistan Army brigadier, acting as president of Azad Kashmir be replaced by an all-party government and legislative assembly elections.

The four-party alliance in Azad Kashmir would persist in its efforts to secure restoration of political government and democracy in Azad Kashmir and Pakistan, he said.

□ In Karachi and Lahore, political leaders are demanding General Zia takes concrete steps to restore civil rule in place of martial law

and hold elections under the 1973 constitution.

Informed sources said that a new alliance of opposition parties may be formed to work in collaboration with the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), which is a coalition of six parties. Both groups would work together to restore democracy.

They would attempt to establish a grand assembly, a symbol of the people's will. The assembly would consist of all those who were elected or defeated in the 1970 and 1977 elections to the National Assembly, and as a counter to General Zia's nominated federal council (Majlis-e-Shoora), so that further steps to press the Government to hold elections and restore democracy could be taken.

The MRD is due to hold a meeting in Karachi next Wednesday. Begum Bhutto, widow of the late premier is expected to take part on behalf of the People's Party.

A divorce that should have been avoided

Washington

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has published in the pages of the *New York Times* and other major newspapers of the world a really tough criticism of United States and NATO foreign policy.

He hesitated to do so for a long time, but the Polish crisis, and the reaction to it by the Reagan administration and the Western allies, apparently alarmed and persuaded him to express in public what had troubled him in private for months; that may be the United States was getting into deep trouble. He decided to speak out, even if it meant an open break with President Reagan and the Republican Party.

Kissinger writes: "Freedom-loving Poles who looked West saw dithering procrastination, sophisticated justifications for impotence, rhetoric incapable of rising to serious action. The emptiness of the Western reaction

to Poland underlines and compounds the disarray of the Western alliance."

Obviously, this public attack by Kissinger on the Reagan administration and the NATO alliance has irritated Washington, including Kissinger's old friends in the State Department, who admire him but think his criticism is unfair. There is a tendency to believe that he is because he was identified with Richard Nixon, Vietnam and Watergate.

Also, he was an agent of Nelson Rockefeller, no friend of Republican conservatives. He was even rejected by his liberal colleagues in the universities, some of whom thought he was wrong on policy and many of whom were envious of his position in the State Department and the White House.

In addition there are others, more objective, who reject his suggestions about what should be done about the Polish crisis.

Kissinger has launched a major attack on the administration's conduct of foreign policy, and has in effect separated himself from the leaders of his own party with a public bill of divorce.

All this is understandable but regrettable, and was probably avoidable.

He is no doubt disappointed that he is no longer at the State Department or in the White House. He knows better than Reagan how many enemies he has in the press, Congress and the universities. He therefore understands why he was rejected by the president. What I think he does not understand is why nobody in the administration was even interested in talking to him seriously and privately about his own concerns.

It is not at all clear that his criticisms are entirely right. If the Reagan administration had summoned the allies to declare Poland bankrupt, and cut off all high-level contacts

David Watt

Why we should bail out the Poles

Last week I argued in this column that because Poland has lain for the last 38 years within the Soviet sphere of influence there are certain practical (though certainly no moral) constraints on the West's scope of action in liberating her and that we must be prepared to pay an unusually high price if we want to attain even limited aims there.

This week I want to pursue the discussion and I shall suggest first that we are in danger of setting ourselves unrealistic objectives in Poland, and second, that because we are unwilling to contemplate major economic sacrifices to back our words, we are losing chances of influencing events.

The present goals of the West, as agreed by the Nato foreign ministers in Brussels last week, are to bring about a lifting of martial law, the release of all detainees, and the resumption of the dialogue between the Government, the Church and Solidarity.

The existing economic sanctions against Poland are intended to bring these changes about, but if they are not successful, the Nato members are supposed to follow the American suit this weekend and apply economic pressures on Moscow.

This is fine as an opening Western bid, but the trouble will start when the time comes to assess the extent to which the Polish regime has complied with the Western conditions. What is meant by "a resumption of the dialogue"? Does it mean that Solidarity is to be constituted just as it was? Must the discussion be fruitful, or does it only need to start? Are the far-reaching political implications of the Gdansk agreement signed by Solidarity and the Government in August 1980 promising the movement a leading role in Polish national life to be revived, or are we merely talking about the industrial purposes of a free trade union movement? In short, are we using the restoration of the situation as it was just before the military clamp-down or not?

If we are, then we are asking the regime to allow Lord Carrington, discussing these matters with the Foreign Affairs Committee in the House of Commons last Tuesday, called a "rebellion" to be resumed. It is worth a try



Will General Jaruzelski (left) allow the resumption of what Lord Carrington called "a rebellion"?

perhaps, but it is important to recognize not only that it is inconceivable that Jaruzelski (still less Moscow) could allow such a radical and open-ended challenge to be revived without qualification, but also that we are making a frontal assault on the Soviet system of a kind we have never made before.

We have of course regarded it and rightly, as one of the ultimate aims of western policy to free eastern Europe from communism and undo the evil that the events of 1944 and 1945 brought to pass. But we have always tried to achieve liberalization by stealth as it were.

The prevailing theory, at least since 1957, has been that the way to produce change in the Soviet empire in a form and at a pace that would not alarm the Russians into precipitating repression was by promoting economic advances to help create consumer societies, and cautiously encouraging political links with the West. In this way there would be at least a sporting chance of loosening the eastern block without Soviet intervention.

It is by no means clear that the western powers are agreed about how far these tactics are still valid.

Chancellor Schmidt of West Germany obviously believes they are. On the other hand, President Reagan and other American spokesmen sometimes talk as if nothing less than a full-scale resumption

of the "rebellion" will present relations between Washington, and Warsaw and Moscow falling into outright Cold War. Lord Carrington blurred the British position. On one hand he claimed that the Helsinki agreement on human rights had improved our moral right to insist on liberalization in Poland (which is true, but unhelpful in deciding what to do in the face of an unchanged balance of power in Eastern Europe). But on the other hand he refrained from defining the Nato position, except in the sense that "the dialogue within Poland should be resumed" — which may be something short of the status quo ante.

The practical outcome of this underlying argument is going to depend mainly on the US, since if the Reagan administration wishes Western relations with the Russians to go into cold storage, that is where they will go. Whether the European nations like it or not. But in deciding how to try to influence the American Government, the European allies have to weigh the rival claims of justice and order in the international system.

Justice demands that we free eastern Europe even if the heavens fall (though not, presumably, in the course of a nuclear war); order and the balance of power demand that the super powers should

exercise some restraint in their challenges to each other even if individuals and peoples continue to suffer oppression as a result.

In assessing this balance, the vital interests of the sides are highly relevant. There is no more chance of our forcing the Russians to allow an early return to the situation in Poland at the beginning of December than there is of forcing the entire Politburo to jump off the walls of the Kremlin. And if we truly intend to insist we shall be harming ourselves and probably endangering the globe to no realistic purpose.

What we rather need is a strategy which will at least ensure as a minimum that Polish society is on the move again — that the complete freeze comes to an end and an evolutionary process begins. In addition, we should fight hard to restart that process at as high a level as possible and to ensure that it moves as fast as possible thereafter, though we should not be surprised if neither speed nor level is as high as before.

It may be said that this is precisely what we are doing. The private, fall-back position of President Reagan may be less far-fetched than it sounds and, if so, he would be perfectly entitled to claim that he is picking up the public demands very high is the only prudent way to deal with the Russians. But even if this is in fact so, two doubts remain. First the rhetoric arouses expectations in American public opinion that are bound to be deceived — a perennial source of trouble and insecurity in US foreign policy. More immediately though, it ensures that the Western position is stated almost entirely in negative terms. We are threatening such and such "unless" rather than offering so-and-so "if...". It is all stick and no carrot.

The Nato position states that unless the internal position in Poland is eased there will be no rescheduling of the huge Polish debts to the West, and the Foreign Secretary emphasized this corollary on Tuesday: that if the Nato points are met, the rescheduling would proceed and even that some new money might be found from Poland's official creditors. But it is not very positive stuff, and the question is whether we should not try to

supplement the threats by putting together a package which would provide an altogether bigger incentive to progress both now and in the longer run.

Last September *The Times* proposed a massive injection of Western aid to Poland in addition to the debt relief. Although the political and financial difficulties of doing this are certainly no less than they were, the advantages are as great as ever, if not greater. Such a scheme would bear closer relation to the true state of the economic problem. It would reduce long-term dependence on the Soviet Union, it would ease Jaruzelski's difficulty in appearing to act under duress, and it would, if properly handled, keep up the pressure for many years.

Above all it would enable the West to present its political conditions to Poland in an economic guise — which is to say in a form in which they have some chance of being accepted. Even the most hardened of statesmen must concede that there is no point in the West giving large sums of money if the Polish workforce, especially the miners, are not going to cooperate.

If we were to demand evidence of a new social contract in Poland before we poured a great deal of good new money after her, we would in effect be inviting the Polish Government and the Solidarity movement to come to an accommodation within the sphere of Polish internal politics. It may well be that such an understanding is simply not possible. But anything would be lost in the offer — except that is, the financial commitment that might be involved if it were accepted.

That is the rub. The unwillingness of Western governments to think in these terms stems in part from ideology and in part from an understandable ill-discontent with Polish lackluster, but mainly from the primacy of foreign ministries and domestic economics in current calculations. There is a price for freedom, and — where Poland is concerned — as well as Americans as well as Europeans evidently feel, whatever they may say, that they have paid enough and will pay no more.

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How far has Scargill been undermined?

The miners have spoken and their leaders must act accordingly. Out of the window goes much of the militant rhetoric of the Left, to be replaced next Tuesday by a rather subdued signing ceremony of the Coal Board's 9.5 per cent pay offer.

The pithead ballot result — exactly the reverse of what the Government expected and the National Union of Mineworkers' leadership intended — will be widely, and in some respects rightly, be read as a vote of no confidence in the hard-line policies of the incoming president, Mr Arthur Scargill. It would reduce long-term dependence on the Soviet Union, it would ease Jaruzelski's difficulty in appearing to act under duress, and it would, if properly handled, keep up the pressure for many years.

Significantly, the "old fox" himself, retiring moderate president Mr Joe Gormley, whose views on the eve of the poll with an unprecedented appeal to the men to reject the recommendation of his own executive, flatly refused yesterday to undermine his successor. No, he did not think that the Scargill presidency had been fatally flawed. Yes, he did think the Government should resist that temptation to crow over the vote.

Mr Gormley knows better than anyone that his impatient rival from the other side of the Pennines will take over on April 5 with the union's national executive in its greatest flux for a decade. The 13-12 politically-based majority last week secured him from a censure move will not survive long. One moderate seat representing some surface workers and colliery men who belong by historical accident to the General and National Workers' Union, will cease to exist in two months time. And Cumberland miners, whose executive representative Mr Harry Hanlon is being assiduously courted by the Left, actually voted against the offer. In short, the ruling Right-wing coalition that has run the union since it was formed at

the end of the last war is in a state of disintegration.

But the Gormley legacy is not an ironclad majority either for moderates or for the Left. As he argued yesterday, it is an obligation on Mr Scargill to derive his authority from the whole of the membership. The new man at the top will have to take into account the feelings of all the areas; and of the rank-and-file who never attend branch meetings but read the *Daily Express*; and of the colliers whose middle-class aspirations have got them in hock to the hire-purchase companies and the building societies. It can no longer be a case of "socialism in one country" — Yorkshire.

The scapegoating of Mr Gormley has actually served to shift some of the blame



Arthur Scargill: laying off the blame...

away from the poor performance of the Left and from the incoming president. He can point to Yorkshire's top-of-the-poll pro-executive result (marginally on last time round), whereas the other traditionally militant areas recorded a sharp fall in strike backing.

By its own standards of militancy, Scotland turned in a bad result, South Wales and Kent were even worse. It may be no accident that all these areas face continuing pit closures. Ironically, the shift towards militancy — such as it was — came in the normally-moderate coalfields of Durham (up 10 per cent) and Nottinghamshire (up 7 per cent).

Cabinet ministers stayed aloof from the pit pay dispute, but not uninterested. Mr Nigel Lawson, the Energy Secretary, is reliably understood to have believed that the miners would give their

leaders authority to mount an all-out stoppage.

In that event, the Government would have played it long as to discredit Mr Scargill's confrontational tactics in the days before his takeover. But it was envisaged that the Cabinet could allow the Coal Board to give ground on one demand that would have no knock-on effect in the wider industrial scene.

This was the NUM's long-standing demand for retirement at 55, which the Government could concede without prejudicing the pay round on the basis that it was confined to one industry, and brought British coalmining into line with best European practice. As things turned out, this escape route was not needed.

Ministers have had the best of one world and the worst of another. The pithead ballot has delivered an unexpected bonus of peace in the mining industry (at no small price; double the desired norm for pay rises). But by laying off the blame, Mr Scargill has escaped the comprehensive collapse of credibility that might otherwise have attached to his name. If the NUM presidential contest were to be run again today, he would win again.

As he took his pit of black-and-tan and fended off yet more requests for signed articles to emulate his famous appearance in the *Daily Express* yesterday, Mr Gormley was still sanguine about the chances of his successor being moulded into a national "politician" susceptible to the responsibilities of national office.

While he was uttering these sentiments, Mr Scargill was issuing an even more bitterly-worded condemnation of the man he succeeded, accusing him of "sabotage". Perhaps when the dust has settled he will ponder more substantially on the fact that in 1980, when the executive recommended that pay offer, the men voted by 56 per cent to reject; this time round, with a recommendation to reject, they voted by 55 per cent to accept.

There can be no clearer evidence that the miner makes up his own mind, and the attitude of the executive is peripheral unless it is the subject of a very well-organized campaign.

Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

What screening can do for your state of health

Twenty thousand men and 11,000 women now go for regular health checks to the British United Provident Association (BUPA) at a cost of £142 a time for men aged 45 to 59 for women. The results of these screenings will be announced at a BUPA press conference today. Are such checks useful in detecting and preventing disease? If so, should the National Health Service undertake them?

Probably the most important reason for screening is that if you are unlucky enough to suffer the common complaints of arthritis, asthma, backache or chronic bronchitis, for example, you know about it.

But there are exceptions. Probably the most important is raised blood pressure, which can present no symptoms but which increases the sufferer's chance of heart attack and stroke. Since it is eminently treatable with drugs, most doctors agree that it is worth screening for.

Other hidden conditions which can be successfully treated and may justify screening are cancer of the cervix or breast in women,

diabetes and cancer of the bowel.

Even here there are the doubts, for in matters of screening there are two clear groups: the evangelists and the snails. The first want to screen everyone, even if the chances of detecting an abnormality are small and the cost per case is high. The second want to await the results of large-scale trials before any mass screening is started. Having said that, most experts do agree that screening for cancer of the cervix is worthwhile. Studies in Iceland and Finland strongly suggest that early detection and treatment reduces mortality.

Consequently, GPs are paid to carry out smears on women over 35 and family planning clinics will do a smear on any sexually active woman, whatever her age.

Cancer of the breast is also thought to have a better prognosis if detected early, and mass trials are going on to compare the cost-effectiveness of three types of screening: by X-ray (mammography), palpation by a doctor and self-examination by the women themselves. Mammography is generally

thought to be the best way of detecting very small lumps but is expensive. Examination by a doctor is also expensive in terms of time and can produce false positives. The last method might well prove to be the most cost-effective and the one adopted as general policy.

For cancer of the bowel, large-scale trials are going on in the Midlands to see whether a simple test done by GPs for blood in patients' stools, which is a useful indicator for the presence of cancer, is acceptable to patients and doctors alike. If

it is, that might be adopted more widely. Screening for early diabetes is controversial as some doctors believe that treating it before symptoms appear does not improve the long-term prognosis. It just means the patient has the bad news several years earlier than necessary. Others disagree.

It is for none of these conditions, however, that BUPA considers its health checks are most useful. Although many people might fear for screenings because they fear that, unbeknown to them, they have some

obscure treatable condition, BUPA does not consider that discovering such diseases is the most useful outcome of its service, and in fact relatively little is discovered.

What the screenings are good at is identifying those at risk from heart disease, the biggest killer of men over 35 in Britain, and at spotting incipient alcoholics.

Discovering whether someone is at risk from heart disease is relatively easy, four risk factors being well-known: whether a patient smokes, is overweight, has raised blood pressure and a

family history of the disease. Discovering whether he is drinking too much is also easy, though a blood test for raised levels of gamma glutamyl transferase.

Persuading a patient to change his lifestyle is, however, a good deal harder. BUPA says that many of the men it has screened over the past ten years have given up smoking as a result of their screenings, but then smoking rates among middle-class men have been falling generally.

In the view of one self-confessed screening "snail", BUPA's health checks are a highly expensive form of health education. Dr Michael D'Souza, a lecturer in Professor Walter Holland's Department of Community Medicine at St Thomas's Hospital, London, helped to carry out a large scale survey of annual health checks for BUPA's Department of Health and Social Security in the 1960s and came down heavily against most of them.

The survey team discovered that a group of middle-aged people who underwent full-scale BUPA style annual health checks were no healthier over ten years than the control group,

who did not. It was estimated in 1973 that such checks nationwide would cost at least £200m.

The survey showed that many patients found to have raised blood pressure never took the tablets they were prescribed because they did not feel ill, and consequently did not improve their chances of survival.

But as a practising GP, Dr D'Souza is keen on certain methods of prevention. He screens his patients for smoking and raised blood pressure in an attempt to find methods that will work.

What many patients realize is that many of the things that are screened for can be obtained more cheaply, or free elsewhere, from family planning clinics for example, in the case of breast palpation and smears, from your own GP for blood pressure checks or from another GP for a limited private check-up.

A GP is not allowed to charge his own patients for any service, so is usually unwilling to perform a preventive check unless the patient has a particular cause for anxiety, such as a bad family history. But many can see a GP, other than his

own, on a private basis and for a fee have a preventive health screen.

Dr Frank Wells, under-secretary at the British Medical Association, said that for a fee of perhaps £15-£20 many GPs would provide a full clinical examination, blood pressure check and a urine test, which would show up early diabetes or hidden kidney disease.

Some GPs already do these things for their own patients as a matter of routine. Dr Jane Chomet, a GP in Crouch End, north London, for example, does a full check on all new patients.

She says her practice refers more cases of early diabetes to the local hospital than any other and has a high detection rate for kidney disease and cancers and pre-cancers of the cervix. But while most GPs are usually willing to take the blood pressure of their patients over 35 and will carry out smears for women over that age, not so many will carry out urine tests to check for diabetes or undertake investigations to check for cancer of the breast or bowel.

So if a patient is worried about these conditions, he has to pay his money and take his choice.

Annabel Ferriman
Health Services Correspondent

The men who could stop a Ripper rerun

Sir James Craze, Chief Inspector of Constabulary and former head of Scotland Yard's fraud squad, is now closed with the Home Secretary following the publication of the Byford report on the handling of the Yorkshire Ripper case. Their purpose is partly to consider the appointment of top police officers to advise constabularies throughout the country on cases of serious crime — one of Byford's recommendations. It is understood that the team will be small and high-powered.

Among suitable officers whose names are being mentioned by their colleagues, lawyers and criminologists are: David Gentry, assistant chief constable (crime) for the West Midlands police, who carried out the internal investigation into allegations against the police in the conduct of the Jimmy Kelly case in Liverpool, and who was subsequently drafted into the special four-man team formed to help hunt for the Ripper;

Colin Sampson, deputy chief constable (crime) for the West Midlands police, who carried out the internal police inquiry into the Ripper investigation last year;

Det Supt Ronald Sagar, deputy head of Humberdale CID, who made his name leading the police investigation into the Hull Prison riots of 1976 and more recently spent seven months tracking down the Hull arsonist who killed 26 people in 1975;

Peter Imbert, chief constable of Thames Valley, who was one of the main negotiators between the Metropolitan Police and the four IRA men during the Balcombe Street siege;

Other top policemen expected to be considered for the advisory team, which would be available as required, include Tony Tyler, deputy chief constable of Nottinghamshire and Peter Rawlinson, assistant chief constable (crime) at Strathclyde.

Computer experts are also expected to be drafted into a team which would harness the best detective and forensic talent in the country. It remains uncertain which officers from the Metropolitan Police might be included — Scotland Yard is awaiting the outcome of Home Office deliberations before discussing the question.

Canteen cuisine

If the four Walsall dinner ladies, who refused to join a union and were wretchedly dismissed as a result, are awarded compensation, I have a suggestion as to how they use the money. There must be many people like me who are sick and tired of smoke salmon, grouse and lobster and banker after a return to the fattening recipes of school food. Odd, is it not, how some of these dishes are to be found nowhere else? I am sure readers have their own favourites but what I would not give for a restaurant that featured: *rosenkrantz* (junket); *gâteau flocon* (cornflake cake); *mortadelle en crêpes* (luncheon meat in batter); *oeuf et cresson*

THE TIMES DIARY



All being well, a dapper, RAF man will arrive at the House of Commons next week with a mission to improve the physical fitness of Members.

Honorable Members, provided the Commons gymnasium agrees, as it is expected to, Fitness for Industry, a company run by three ex-paratroopers (an ex-general, an ex-colonel and Jon Spicer, an MP for Dorset, West) will be granted a contract to assess the fitness of any MP who wants it, and will then recommend a course of training in the gym under the supervision of the gymnast.

FFI is barely nine months old

but appears to have tapped a rich vein of exercise. The gym under the Institute of Directors, which already has 300 subscribers, has recently opened another gym at the Excelsior Hotel at Heathrow, and has been contracted to do the physical fitness of the House of Commons. In each case, as in the Commons, a trained gymnast, either from the services or a graduate from one of our universities, is on hand to make an initial assessment of fitness (or otherwise) and to design courses tailored to individual needs.

I sat next to Mr Spicer at a House of Commons lunch earlier this week. Judging by our respective constitutions, need these services more than he does.

gâteau de barne (egg and cress barm cake); *semoule au lait* (semolina); *mandarin au gelée* (oranges in jelly).

Not quite Walsall, I know, but there must be a market for this food somewhere.

Brush with fame

Eliette von Karajan, the third wife of the Berlin maestro is about to ride somewhat unwillingly to celebrity on her husband's coat tails. The attractive French ex-model has cultivated a hobby for painting in oils while Herbert flies his jet around Europe in pursuit of his multiple musical interests (old Vienna joke: Karajan gets into a taxi. "Where to?" asks the driver.

"Doesn't matter," responds the millionaire musician. "I've got something going everywhere.")

Eliette, who has hitherto stayed firmly in the background, has now been persuaded to decorate the covers of a series of reissued recordings by her husband.

The paintings are all pastoral landscapes, mostly French scenes painted nostalgically. From memory, the one I have seen is pleasant enough but would hardly have been chosen for such exposure if the painter had not been who she is. To her credit, Eliette is declining to take part in any publicity for the series and has released only one brief statement: "I paint inner worlds,

not outer ones." But publicists are already promoting the pictures as "visual accompaniments to her husband's art." They would.

Chinese Burns

"Burns night" without haggis, bagpipes and kilts may seem on the face of it to be a contradiction in terms. But Peking's tribute to the bard on Wednesday evening was so sincere and dignified that it moved the audience even more than the shot of whisky in polystyrene provided by courtesy of Jardine Matheson, Scottish pioneers of the China trade.

Held in a small theatre in Peking, Burns night was organised by Patricia Wilson, assistant to the well-known English scholar and translator, Yang Xianyi, who showed great enthusiasm for the occasion. Chinese performers sang "Ye Banks and Breas", "Bonny Doon" and "Comin' Through the Rye". "Tae a Moose" was nicely done, and one of the Chinese girls made a credible attempt at reciting in the broad Scots tongue. Near the end, the Chinese would have been interested to see one of Britain's national minorities in full gear.

Stage fright

Anthony Field, the Arts Council's director of finance, is unhappy about the seat prices being charged at Drury Lane from April 12 for the revue, *Not in Front of the Audience*, by the Not in Nine O'Clock News team.

Writing in *The Stage* he says (in his personal capacity) that he

is horrified to see stalls and circle at £8.50, upper circle at £7 and balcony at £5.50. Add the costs of meals and transport and this narrow-pricing differential is, he says, the theatre's way of ensuring it will have no audience at all in 30 years' time. And he goes back 30 years to get to the root cause of the problem.



Top priced seats were too cheap, though the price range was right, he feels, maintaining that what were previously 15s (75p) stalls are correctly priced today at between £8.50 and £12.50 — but that correspondingly the old 2s (10p) gallery seats should now cost no more than £1. He concludes nowadays young coup-

les can ill afford £11 for two balcony seats while £17 for a pair of circle seats is too cheap.

An interesting analysis, says Vincent Burke, of the Society of West End Theatre, but unnecessary, exaggerated, it takes no account of the fact that theatres and producers are using a variety of methods to ensure that future audiences are retained.

Signing off

One other thing. This is the last Diary from me. Next week I will be pouncing the pavements of New York for this newspaper. My thanks to the hundreds of readers who have written in with tips (however misleading) and jokes (however old). No thanks at all to those expatriate New Yorkers at dinner the other night who sent me on my way with these one-liners:

"The faces in New York remind me of people who had played a game and lost." — Murray Kempton.

"In New York City, the common bats fly at all hours." — George Prentice.

"New York is not the cultural centre of America, but the business and administrative centre of American culture." — Saul Bellow.

"New York is not the centre of the goddam universe. I grant you it's an exciting, vibrant, stimulating, fabulous city, but it is not Mecca. It just smells like it." — Alan Alda in California Suite.

See what risks I'm taking.

Peter Watson



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KING JOE AND ARTHUR

The unexpectedly large majority in the miners' ballot to accept the Coal Board's offer of 9½ per cent is good news for Britain, for Mrs Thatcher's government and for the miners themselves. It is not good news for Mr Arthur Scargill, whose personal and political judgment were shown to be clearly at fault. Instead of railing at his President, Mr Gormley, for speaking his moderate mind, he should acknowledge that his veteran leader was more in touch with the grassroots. Mr Gormley did well to speak out, but by suggesting that everyone merely did what Joe told them to do Mr Scargill under-rates the capacity of miners to think for themselves. King Arthur will have to learn that his subjects have minds of their own.

Contrary to much public and political suspicion, the miners are not in fact usually quick into confrontation — though when they do decide to strike it is with formidable solidarity. The requirement to conduct a ballot of all members is also itself a protection against hot-headed anger or trouble-seeking executives. In the trade unions, as in the Labour Party, widespread democratic participation often results in support for a good moderate case, which is presumably why left-wing politicians and union leaders prefer to consult a caucus rather than their full membership. Mr Tobitt should now feel renewed encouragement to pursue the extension of the ballot, for officers as well as

for actions, in Britain's industrial relations field.

Individual miners — and their wives — will have calculated the potential gains and certain losses of strike action. At present they are doing very well. They have risen very rapidly to the top of the earnings table, benefiting greatly from the new productivity scheme which Mr Scargill earlier recommended them to reject. They may also have remarked the Prime Minister's recent determination to resist large pay settlements and decided that it was not worth an inevitably long and costly battle for the sake of an extra couple of per cent. They listened to common sense rather than the political rhetoric of Mr Scargill: when he takes over as President he might be advised in his own interests more often to follow their example.

The miners' settlement is good news for inflation in the sense that had it gone wrong then this pay round would probably have gone seriously awry with it. Now the water workers have settled around a similar figure and the power-electricity supply workers, who usually take their cue from the miners, may be expected to fall into line. Providing that the central and local government employers hold equally firm with their own civil servants and with the teachers and the Health Service auxiliaries, then there is a good prospect of emerging from this round with a single figure outcome on earnings, which is well below the rate of inflation.

The gilt-edged market is already beginning to bloom with satisfaction at these developments and prospects, though too much optimism would be premature. We are still a long way from victory in the war against inflation. The miners' 9½ per cent, the water workers 9 per cent, the lamentable 7 per cent to the local government employees, and similar anticipated settlements elsewhere in the public sector must all be set against the ambitions of an average 4 to 5 per cent pay factor on which the Government has based its latest macro-economic forecasts. Some of the pay excess is of course being compensated by large productivity increases, but these gains may prove temporary, relating to this particular stage of the recession. The fact is that 8 to 9 per cent would still be a high base from which to launch the next pay round. That will span much of the run-up to the next general election when expansionary sentiments will grow rampant and the willingness to resist the pay demands of large groups of voters will inevitably diminish.

After celebrating the miners' good sense, the Chancellor knows that he will still need some luck with interest and exchange rates and some manipulation of the tax system to get inflation at election-time down to the level he inherited. Certainly it would be imprudent to introduce in the coming budget any measures which significantly increase it.

MR BEGIN UNITES HIS FOES

Mr Begin has got away with it — for the time being. His government's annexation of the Golan Heights has been greeted by much international huffing and puffing, but little else. In the United Nations Security Council the Syrians were unable — after weeks of manoeuvring — to muster enough support for mandatory sanctions against Israel, and the watered-down version put up by the Jordanians went down to an American veto, with Britain among others abstaining. At home, Mr Begin is applauded for his defence of Israel's national interests and defiance of her enemies. He may yet come under pressure from the United States. But since Washington confined itself to words of disapproval after the Israeli raids on Lebanon and Iraq last year, Mr Begin presumably has little to fear. Mrs Kirkpatrick, the American Ambassador at the United Nations, has in any case endorsed the juridically-unsound Israeli view that since Golan already "belongs" to Israel, it cannot have been "annexed".

There are however cogent reasons why Mr Begin should not feel complacent when considering the longer term, but should rather heed those — and they include Israelis — who warn of the dangers ahead. There is the question of Egypt, which the Israelis appear to assume will adhere to its treaty obligations under President Mubarak's leadership. In this they may be right. But such a course does not preclude an Egyptian return to the Arab fold once

the whole of Sinai is safely back in Egyptian hands in three months' time, assuming that it is. Even without Egypt, the Arab world has been drawn together by successive Israeli actions. By adopting a belligerent stance, Mr Begin is not scattering his foes, but uniting them. One of the most striking consequences of the Golan annexation has been the rapprochement between radical Syria and conservative Saudi Arabia, with the accompanying suggestion that the Saudis might restore their ties with the Soviet Union, thus bringing Moscow back onto the Middle East stage.

There are lessons here for the Western powers, as they consider how the post-April vacuum might best be filled. It is still possible that some formula for Palestinian autonomy will be found before Sinai is handed over, thus enabling the Americans to say that Camp David is to be continued. But Mr Haig's busy activity over autonomy is due not so much to hope of imminent success as to a desire to keep Israel talking, and thus prevent any further annexations or incursions. The way forward lies through negotiations which build on the achievement of Camp David, but involve the Palestinians directly. The inclusion of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, desirable in itself, depends upon its willingness to give proper recognition to Israel. The seeds of that were contained in the proposals put forward by Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia last year. If the abandoned Arab summit is to be re-

convened, as has been suggested, the Fahd plan may well be recovered from the rubble of Fez and given new life, with the Syrians joining in return for Arab support over Golan.

But if there is to be any progress after April, Israel must be given cast-iron guarantees of security, so that it no longer feels surrounded by hostile neighbours whose aggression it has constantly to anticipate. This has been something of a European blind spot, and Lord Carrington's proposed visit to Israel to explain European attitudes is both welcome and well timed. The Arabs, moreover, have to acknowledge that one of the reasons why the Camp David accords have run into trouble is Arab refusal to take advantage of the opportunities for peace which Camp David offered.

Equally, the Arab states have the right to expect that Israel will cease annexing Arab lands, and will stop building settlements on the West Bank of the kind which would make even the limited autonomy envisaged under Camp David difficult to implement, let alone any more elaborate form of Palestinian self-government. If Mr Begin is not restrained, either by more far-sighted Israelis or by the United States, or both, then moderate and radical Arabs alike may well adopt hardline positions after April, perhaps with Russian support. That is not the way to Middle East peace, nor is it in Israel's national interests.

STILL LEFT UNEXPLAINED

As a law officer, Mr Nicholas Fairbairn should have known better than to speak to the press about a particular case in the way he did on Wednesday, especially when he was due to make a statement to Parliament the next day. His resignation last night as Solicitor General of Scotland followed a display of ineptitude at the dispatch-box almost as lamentable. Far from shedding new light on the circumstances surrounding the decision to discontinue the prosecution of the alleged attackers in the Glasgow rape case, he only managed to confuse the House of Commons more thoroughly. Most of the issues arising from the case remain inadequately explained.

The statement by the Lord Advocate, Lord Mackay, which Mr Fairbairn read out, was informative as far as it went. But it did not go very far. In particular, it left unexplained the reasoning behind the decision to drop proceedings after it was decided that the victim was not in a fit state to give evidence. She is now reported as saying that she was prepared to give evidence, though Mr Fairbairn claims that the psychiatrist's report was adamant that there was a risk of

suicide if she did. Whatever her mental condition at the time, no satisfactory explanation has been given for taking the irreversible step to drop the charges, rather than allow the possibility that they could be revived at a later stage.

The main area of uncertainty concerns the evidence against the youths other than that which depended on the victim's own testimony. The Lord Advocate's statement says merely that "the view was taken by Crown Counsel that in the light of all the circumstances in the absence of the complainant it would not have been proper to proceed". That is rather different from Mr Fairbairn's reported remarks to the press that the evidence was insufficient. Mr Fairbairn himself failed to clear up the discrepancy and refused to give any details as to the evidence in issue. The Scottish Daily Record, however, has claimed, with supporting documentation, that one of the accused youths had made a voluntary confession, that there was another statement from a Crown witness, who had been originally charged, and some forensic evidence linking one of the accused to the assault.

If such evidence was indeed available to be given at the trial, then it appears — on the surface at least — that the prosecution would not have been a hopeless one, even without the victim's own evidence. As the Law Officers have refused to give any further details of the evidence, or of any other factors taken into account, it is impossible to say with certainty whether the decision not to go ahead with the prosecution was or was not justified.

The Lord Advocate and his Crown Counsel are rightly given considerable discretion over decisions to prosecute. In this case a strong impression is left that the discretion was exercised wrongly. The possibility remains of a private prosecution. Although there were calls in Parliament yesterday for a judicial or parliamentary inquiry, it is not apparent that this would serve any useful purpose. The decision cannot be reversed. Whatever view is taken of the exercise of the prosecutors' discretion in this instance, one lapse, however sensational, does not impugn or shake confidence in the Scottish system of justice.

Japanese aid with defence burden

From Mr Julian Amery, MP for Brighton Pavilion (Conservative)

Sir, Your leading article, "Protection on a leash" (January 20) underlines how difficult it is for the industrialised West to criticise Japan's economic policies. The Japanese have been practising for years — and with great success — most of the economic virtues which we preach to our own peoples. This makes it hard to ask them to buy goods which they don't want, or to invest abroad if they can get a better return at home.

There is, however, one sector, not mentioned in your article, where Japan could help to correct the current imbalance in her trade position. That is defence.

The Japanese economy has not carried anything like the burden of defence expenditure which the European Community, and still more the United States, have carried for a generation. And yet Japanese access to oil, raw materials and markets, as well as the relative world stability which has made the Japanese "miracle" possible, have all depended on the precarious balance of power maintained hitherto by the West.

This balance of power has now been put in question by the attainment of military parity, if not superiority, by the Soviet Union. In these circumstances can the Japanese reasonably expect to continue enjoying a free ride on the back of Western defence budgets?

The Japanese Constitution may make it impossible for the Japanese Parliament to increase its national defence expenditure as fast as Japan's interests would seem to dictate. But would it not be open to the Japanese Government to contribute to their own security by providing massive finance in the shape of interest-free defence loans to the West or even aid for specific projects, e.g. the maintenance of Western power bases in the Indian Ocean and the Pacific?

Such an involvement in Western defence policies should lead in due course to Japanese opinion recognising the need to take upon itself a greater share of the burden of our common defence. Meanwhile it would go far to defuse the fiction that their own economic success has given rise.

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN AMERY,
112 Eaton Square, SW1,
January 20.

Close examination

From Mr Peter Marshall

Sir, Mr Ivor Crewe, writing in your columns about the Glasgow constituency of Hillhead (January 15), claims that "no other constituency has as high a proportion of electors with two A levels to their name".

At the A level is a purely English examination and Scottish pupils sit their own Higher Grade examinations, then the risks for the Alliance in fielding the non-Scottish Mr Jenkins as its candidate may not be so great as we have been led to suppose.

Yours faithfully,
PETER MARSHALL,
Lisnagar, Easthill,
Kirkwall, Orkney.

Accents uncertain

From Mr G. M. Lee

Sir, Your third leader for January 16 says of the Greek accents that they were "introduced by the Alexandrians as a way of marking the stressed syllables". This seems a rather misleading statement of the case.

The accents were in fact devised by the Alexandrian grammarians to mark, not stress, as we understand it, but the musical pitch, which was disappearing from use in the Hellenistic world. With the supersession of the pitch accent by the stress accent these signs came indeed to mark stress (as in modern Greek) but that was not their original purpose.

Yours, etc.
G. M. LEE,
128 St Michael's Road, Bedford.

Informed or instructed?

From Mr Andrew Acland

Sir, While reading your most interesting Guide to Information Technology last Thursday (January 14) I could not help recalling the now Ludite cry of T. S. Eliot in *Choruses* from "The Rock":

'Understandings' in the rail dispute

From Mr Jonathan Parker QC

Sir, Sir Peter Parker tells us (January 18) that the issue which took the BR Board and the rail unions to 'Acas' last August was BR's insistence that increased productivity should be linked to increased pay. Yet the result was not one of "understanding" but two: one relating to pay, the other to productivity, and neither apparently containing any reference to the other. So if this was the issue it would seem to have been resolved emphatically in the unions' favour.

But wait. What have we here? A minute, signed by all parties. Can this be the missing trick? The minute says apparently, that the pay award was acceptable to BR "on the understanding that the commitments on productivity would be honoured". But it says nothing as to the basis on which the unions accepted the pay award. They do not seem to have taken any view, as BR must have known.

Then what were the "commitments on productivity" to which the unions accepted the pay award? Parker tells us that item (c) of the "productivity understanding" provided that "negotiations shall take place" about varying rostering agreements, and that "these discussions shall be concluded by October 31, 1981". As a commitment that appears hopelessly vague, if not totally meaningless.

In any event, Sir Peter also tells us that Aslef did enter into negotiations with BR (so that the first half of the "commitment" would appear to have been fulfilled); and that it was "only after some three months of negotiations" that BR concluded that Aslef had no intention of modifying the eight-hour day. That takes us into November, 1981. So if there was a breach of

the "commitment" in failing to conclude the negotiations by October 31, 1981, both sides would appear to be guilty of it. To argue, in the above circumstances, whether the unions have honoured their "commitments on productivity" is about as relevant or useful as arguing about how many angels can dance on the point of a pin.

Is not the truth, Sir, that the August, 1981, "settlement" was no settlement; that all parties to it (and Acas) must have known that it was no settlement; that it was deliberately structured in the form of separate "understandings" so as to give Aslef the opportunity, of which it is now availing itself, to drive a railway through it; and that it was a policy of deliberate misdirection, each side is now displaying a degree of disingenuousness greater even than that of which the harassed railway user had previously thought it capable.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN PARKER,
11 Old Square,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

Mr R. Perkins
Sir, Lord Strathallmond asks (January 19) why Aslef have a fleet of electric locomotives of only 3,000 locomotives. I can tell him.

A large part of British Rail's rolling stock is made up of electric multiple-unit sets and diesel multiple-unit sets; these are quite apart from locomotives. Drivers of these multiple-unit sets are members of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT PERKINS,
57 Fieldgate Street, Stepney, E1.

Poland and the West

From Mr E. P. Thompson

Sir, Dr Lawrence Freedman (January 6) is usually complacent. It is true that the present alliance system in Europe disallows any real assistance to the West of the Poles, or for that matter the East to the Turks. But there has been a great deal of Western rhetoric which has suggested otherwise; and we are now hearing voices as diverse as those of President Mitterrand and of General Haig which suggest that the "Valta" division of Europe should be brought to an end.

Yes, it should. But how? Dr Freedman affirms confidently that Poles are not interested in the disarmament movement in Western Europe and he appears to regard this as a virtue for general Western self-congratulation.

Members of the Western peace movement have had a great many discussions with Poles in the past year — both open and confidential — and with members of Solidarity, of government, academics and "loners". I cannot generalise with Dr Freedman's confidence but it was our experience that many Poles, when they turned their minds to questions of security, were preoccupied quite as much with conventional armaments as with nuclear weapons.

A policy restricted to nuclear disarmament alone was inadequate to the Polish situation. What alarmed and alarmed the Soviet military was a situation in which there would be a heavily armed (nuclear and conventional) Western Germany, while the major routes to Soviet forces in

East Germany were placed in hazard by the "Westernising" of Poland.

We have attended to Polish (and Czech) criticisms and proposals with care. That is why, in my recent article (December 22, 1981) I drew attention again to the Rapacki Plan. In its final form (1958 and 1962) this Polish plan linked nuclear disarmament in the two Germanies, Poland and Czechoslovakia with phased reductions of conventional armament on both sides.

I am not saying that the plan was perfect, nor do I wish to reopen the argument as to why it was then rejected by Nato. I am arguing that the most substantial help which the West could bring to the Polish people would be urgent proposals for the demilitarisation of central Europe. This alone would allow the Polish people to feel that the West could appear to introduce "instability" into the European security system.

The objective of these proposals must be the phased withdrawal of both Nato and Soviet forces from central Europe. The repudiation of "Valta" cannot be demanded from one side only. Space for the growth of political freedom in Poland and, in time, in Eastern Germany and Czechoslovakia can be won only by Nato concessions — also, above all, in cancelling the new missiles and in the progressive demilitarisation of West Germany.

Yours, etc.
E. P. THOMPSON,
Wick, Episcopi,
Upper Wick, Worcester.
January 14.

Care of mental illness

From Professor K. Ravensley and others

Sir, In view of the current debate about new mental health legislation, we believe that it would be appropriate to state the views of The Royal College of Psychiatrists on some of the major issues.

Both mental illness and mental handicap encompass a wide range of conditions and the vast majority of those suffering from either form of these disorders do not require hospital treatment and many do not consult doctors. In the case of mental handicap, most patients can receive care outside hospital, but a small, significant number of severely mentally handicapped individuals do have disturbances of behaviour which constitute a danger to themselves or occasionally to other people which justifies some form of detention and hospital care.

It is essential that the needs of this group are provided for in mental health legislation without the risk of prejudice and alienation which may result simply from a change of name. Understanding is much more important and the needs of those already in hospital must not be forgotten.

We welcome the proposal to create a Mental Health Act Commission to oversee and protect the interests of individual detained patients, but regret that its activities exclude a responsibility for informal patients, who

constitute over 90 per cent of hospital cases.

We recognise that there is considerable controversy concerning the question of consent to treatment by detained patients and we welcome the Bill's acceptance of the need for emergency treatment in some cases and for the involvement of an independent medical examiner when a patient's ability to give informed consent is impaired.

We believe that the opinion of an independent consultant appointed by the commission given the best chance, not only considering the question of consent, but also of acceptance by the responsible consultant where an alternative form of treatment is proposed. We do not consider that mental health tribunals could carry out this task satisfactorily or practically.

At the end of the day legislation alone will not guarantee good practice. In addition to the need for psychiatric services to be given a fair share of available resources, sympathetic understanding of the problems affecting psychiatric patients and support for their caring staff are, in our view, more likely to achieve what we all desire.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH RAVENSLEY,
GERALD TIMBURY,
ROBERT BLUGLASS,
The Royal College of Psychiatrists,
17 Belgrave Square, SW1,
January 20.

Whooping cough dangers

From Dr John Potter

Sir, The Department of Health and Social Security has recently been criticised for not doing enough to encourage whooping cough vaccination. In fairness to the department I should like to try to redirect some of this criticism towards those who have so frightened parents, by emphasising the small risks of vaccination, that some 60 per cent of our young children are now unprotected against the much greater dangers of the present epidemic.

It seems that the DHSS may have paid some attention to the clamour of those sincere but misguided people, thereby perhaps preventing a few vaccination tragedies. Even if it did this, and was foolish to have done so, the department itself should not now have to face all the blame for what are likely to be the even graver consequences of the present epidemic.

The present sorry business illustrates the mess a welfare state gets into if it comes to believe that every medically-induced misfortune should if necessary be compensated through litigation, even when there has been no negligence. There are serious implications in all this not just for preventive medicine, to which so much lip-service is paid, but for medical treatment generally. Doctors can often do little more than point the way to a public-health measure, thereafter it becomes a political issue. If it becomes also a legal one, then "defensive medicine" will be increasingly practised by politicians and the DHSS, just as in ordinary clinical practice physicians and surgeons are already becoming detectably reluctant to carry out certain forms of treatment which inevitably carry a degree of risk, even though the dangers of not treating are greater.

It is clearly against the public interest that this state of affairs should get any worse and some system of indemnity is needed to protect not only patients but the reputation of those whose duty it is to administer preventive and therapeutic measures and who do so in good faith and without negligence.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN POTTER,
Director of Postgraduate Medical Education and Training,
University of Oxford,
Medical School Offices,
John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford.

The buyer's premium

From the Chairman of the Society of London Art Dealers

Sir, Frances Gibb (report, January 14) misinformed your readers when she said that the Society of London Art Dealers had "capitalised" to a demand from the Office of Fair Trading for their evidence over alleged collusion between Sotheby's and Christie's in the introduction of the buyer's premium.

At no time has the Society informed the OFT of our evidence. The Director General's request happened to be made when our three-month settlement period with the auctioneers still had a few weeks to run. Of course his letter cast a quite new aspect on what, up to that time, had been a private dispute and so we asked him if he would be good enough to "stay his hand" for just a little while. Seven years had slipped by between the introduction of the premium and our receipt of the letter, so we saw nothing whatever remiss about the elapse of a few more weeks in order that we, like Christie's, could honour the spirit of the settlement and also consult our membership.

Your second leader (January 16) admirably sets out your view, which we entirely share, about the buyer's premium, but I have become convinced that any official effort to persuade Sotheby's and Christie's to abolish it will in fairness need to have legal backing in order to defend the interest of these two houses against one another and against their London rivals.

I can foresee no real problem of the auctioneers' British business going abroad. The United States, where the art market soon follow suit and as for the French — well, it was their buyer's commission and taxes which helped bring the business to London in the first place.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BASKETT, Chairman,
Society of London Art Dealers,
173 New Bond Street, W1,
January 18.

Proper names

From His Honour Judge Brian J. F. Galpin

Sir, Some time ago the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre at Swansea sent me a new driving licence, describing me as "His Brian John Francis Galpin". I now drive secure in the knowledge that I nothing lack if I am His.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN J. F. GALPIN,
St Bruno House,
Charters Road,
Sunningdale, Berkshire.
January 16.

Proper places

From Mr Robert R. Rodwell

Sir, American inability to cope with British honours and titles is well known. I remember attending a formal dinner at USAF headquarters at Ruislip, Middlesex, in the late 1950s at which the guest of honour was to be Viscount de l'Isle and Dudley, the then Secretary of State for Air. Lord de l'Isle arrived at the top table to find that two places had been set for him.

Yours faithfully,
BOB RODWELL,
63 Sandown Road, Belfast.

SOCIAL NEWS

The Duke of Edinburgh, Captain General of the Royal Marines, will attend the presentation of the Masefield Award for the life of Mr. Norman Harrison Leyland in Oxford on Saturday January 16. They were travelling from the United States to London on that day.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Dr. A. H. Mordaunt will be held at St. Stephen's Church, Lansdown Road, Bath, at 12.15. Friends will be welcome at 9 Lansdown Place West afterwards.

A memorial service for Lady Hartwell will be held at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on Tuesday, February 23, at noon.

Fortcoming marriages

Mr D. J. M. Runciman and the Hon. A. E. Bovicke-Copley. The engagement is announced between David James Runciman, youngest son of the late Dr. J. B. M. Runciman and Mrs. A. Runciman, of Ladbroke, and Anne Elizabeth, daughter of Lord and Lady Croomwell, of The Manor House, Great Milton, Oxford.

Mr R. C. Smith-Ryland and Miss E. S. Dugdale. The engagement is announced between Robin, elder son of Mr. Charles and the Hon. Mrs. Smith-Ryland, of Sherbourne Park, Warwick, and Elicia, daughter of the late Commander James George Greville Dugdale, RN, and Mrs. James Dugdale, of Jackdaw House, Salterton, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Mr R. F. H. Sharpey and Miss S. P. Nabarro. The engagement is announced between Roger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sharpey, of Boswell, Lincolnshire, and Sarah, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Sharpey, of Curdie Cottage, Beaulieu, Hampshire, and the late Sir Gerald Nabarro.

Mr S. C. Brown and Miss A. S. Trier. The engagement is announced between Simon Craven, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. T. S. Brown, of London, and Alison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Trier, of Brook Green, London.

Mr N. R. Cadbury and Miss J. A. Dean. The engagement is announced between Nigel, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. Robin Cadbury, of Alchurch, Worcestershire, and Julie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Dean, of Streely, West Midlands.

Mr M. C. St G. Diacomo and Miss C. C. Cartwright. The engagement is announced between Michael Christopher St G. Diacomo, elder son of Mrs. O. Diacomo, of Culford Road, London, N.1, and of Lieutenant-Colonel G. L. Diacomo, and Camilla Clara, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D'Arcy Cartwright, of Bere Farmhouse, Warrford, Hampshire.

Mr R. C. Fisher, MP (deputy chairman, UK branch Commonwealth Parliamentary Association), was host at a luncheon given yesterday in the House of Commons by the executive committee of the UK branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, with Vanuatu and Mrs. Carol and members of the Vanuatu Parliament.

Reception

London Export Corporation Limited, Mr. Jack Perry, chairman of London Export Corporation Limited, and the directors gave a reception at 21 Portland Place, London W1, on January 19 to bid farewell to the departing Commercial Counsellor of China, Mr. Liu Chin-Sheng, and to welcome his successor, Mr. Sang Zhiqing. Among those present were representatives of the Chinese Embassy, Chinese commercial officials in London, the Bank of China and visiting Chinese delegations to Britain, Members of Parliament, representatives of British companies trading with China in the manufacturing, trading, technological sections, academic circles and sports organisations.

Dinners

Lord Underhill entertained members and guests of the International Council of Exchange at dinner in the House of Lords yesterday. There were present: The High Commissioner for Cyprus and Mrs. Panayides, the High Commissioner of India and Shrimati Saru Bevi Muhammad and Dr. R. U. Hingorani (chairman).

The Lord Mayor entertained at dinner at the Mansion House last night members of the Court of Common Council, the Chairman of the Greater London Council, the Lord Mayor of Westminster, the mayors of the Greater London boroughs, aldermen, sheriffs, high officers of the Corporation of London and ward clerks of the City of London.

The speakers were the Lord Mayor, the Chairman of the Greater London Council, the Lord Mayor of Westminster and the Chief Commoner.

Society of Education Officers

Professor E. C. Wragg, Director of the School of Education, Exeter University, was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Society of Education Officers held last night at the Royal Over-Seas League, Mr. J. R. C. Tomlinson, Director of Education, Cheshire and president of the society, presided.

Latest appointments

Mr. Crome Barrett, to be president of the Royal Institute of Oil Painters in succession to Mr. Alan Courley.

Mrs. Paula Ridley to be a member of the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

Mr. D. A. Tiffin and Miss F. E. Corbett. The engagement is announced between David Tiffin, Royal Signals, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Tiffin, of Yeovil, Somerset, and Fiona, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Corbett, of Edinburgh.

Luncheons

The Lord Privy Seal was host yesterday at a luncheon at 1 Carlton Gardens, given in honour of the Norwegian Ambassador.

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Puzzle over authenticity

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A pen drawing of St Catherine with her famous wheel, once considered the work of Leonardo da Vinci, downgraded in the seventeenth century to the young Raphael and now confidently ascribed by Sotheby's New York to the hand of Pintoricchio, was sold in New York on Wednesday for \$19,800 (estimate \$15,000-\$25,000) or £10,532. It was bought by a New York dealer.

The drawing belonged to the seventeenth-century collector Padre Sebastiano Resta; the attribution to Pintoricchio was first put forward by A. E. Popham in an article discussing his collection published in 1936. It seems to have caught on.

All Renaissance drawings are great rarities and the few that remain in private hands and thus available to the market tend to change attribution quite regularly; the great, well documented

works are mainly owned by the institutions. By coincidence Sotheby's had a second drawing from Sebastiano Resta's collection for sale; its latest owner, who had consigned it for sale, was former Queen Helen of Romania.

This is a portrait study of a young man in black chalk on paper, washed pink. It was ascribed by Sotheby's to the "Circle of Andrea del Sarto". Sotheby's say it has not been considered the work of Sarto himself since Resta's time.

Present scholars, however, are in disagreement. Professor Sydney Freedberg backs Sarto's follower, Domenico Puligo. A Virginia dealer paid \$8,800 (est. \$5,000-\$12,000) or £4,681 for the privilege of trying to sort that out.

The sale of Old Master drawings, while not buoyant, saw only 11 per cent left unsold. A group of attractive natural history drawings by Franz Anton von Scheidel, the eighteenth-century Austrian collector, made American private collectors enthusiastic. The pretty illustrations of shells were especially popular, one sheet reaching \$5,280 (estimate \$1,500-\$2,500) or £2,809.

In London yesterday, Christie's sale of English furniture was left with 18 per cent unsold. A particularly handsome Georgian mahogany table was bid by Phillips and Harris to well beyond expectations at £5,832 (estimate £3,000-£4,000).

At Sotheby's Belgrave, Victorian silver was standing up well to the fall in the silver melt price. Bidding ran beyond expectations where pieces were in good condition and only 7 per cent was unsold.



Prize painters: Mr Donald Blake and Miss Margaret Thomas

A brush with fame after two decades of toil

By Frances Gibb

A man aged 73 has received £5,000 for the best watercolour painting of the year by a British artist in a competition organized by the Federation of British Artists and the Hunting Group of companies.

Mr Donald Blake, who became a professional artist 28 years ago after a career as a draughtsman, said: "I am absolutely delighted and rather nervous. This is really the climax of the last two decades for me. I started a new watercolour technique when I began work professionally and this painting was the result."

The work, a sea scene called "Stormy Harbour", employs the technique of first putting on the watercolour, and then removing parts of it with cotton wool and other material. "It is a product of sitting on a Cornish harbour waiting for the pub to open", Mr Blake said.

A member of the Royal Society of Marine Artists, Mr Blake was one of more than 11,000 artists in the competition, the second held by the Federation and the Hunting Group.

The winner of the best oil painting was Miss Margaret Thomas, aged 64, for her work "The Rembrandt Drawing".

Sixty finalists were chosen from the 11,000, representing many of the federation's societies, such as the Royal Society of Portrait Painters, the Royal Society of Marine Artists and the Royal Institute of Oil Painters. The exhibition, at the Mall Galleries, is open until next Tuesday, including the weekend.

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OBITUARY

MR LEONARD LEVER

Former president of the CPSA

Mr Leonard Lever, a former president of the Civil and Public Services Association, died on January 18 at the age of 57 after a short illness. He was closely involved in the political battle in the late 1970s which threatened to tear the union apart, and was responsible, during one of his periods as president, for declaring invalid elections to the union executive which would have led to left wingers taking control. There had been allegations of voting irregularities and in the re-run right wingers dramatically gained control of the executive.

Lever was born in Kensington and joined the Civil Service straight from school as a clerical officer in the Post Office Savings Bank administration offices in his home borough. He spent all his working life there until about six years ago when he was transferred to the Home Office. After joining the

CPSA in 1948, he became active in 1955 winning an election for the post of sub-branch assistant secretary. Lever became a branch secretary in 1963 and won a seat on the union's national executive in 1966. He was vice-president on three occasions, in 1970-72, 1975-76 and 1979-80 and was president during 1972-75 and 1976-79.

At the time of his death he was still a member of the executive and was regarded in the union as somewhat unpredictable. He always maintained his independence from the powerful right and left groupings in the union, although on occasions he did accept the support of the Broad Left in elections.

During the voting scandals in 1978, Lever ruled the left's landslide vote because some irregularities had led to a Communist being elected vice-president in the place of the moderate incumbent.

MR W. T. BISHOP

William Thomas Bishop, CBE FRICS, who died on January 16 at the age of 80 was one of the best known chartered surveyors of his generation. Born in March 1901 he joined the well known firm of Cluttons in 1920 and qualified as a chartered surveyor in 1924 being awarded the Crowthorne prize in the final examination. In 1945 he was invited to become a partner in the firm established by Dr. Jones rising to the position of senior partner in 1950.

A man of great enthusiasm and energy (despite his build) his shrewdness, personality and fighting spirit attracted new clients to the firm as diverse as the Crown Estate Commissioners, the National Coal Board, the Corporation of Trinity House, the Governors of Harrow School and the RNLI.

He devoted a great deal of time to the affairs of the Royal Institution of Char-

tered Surveyors as branch chairman, a member of council and from 1963 to 1972 as the institution's honorary secretary. In 1963 he was elected a Younger Brother of Trinity House. He also served on the management committee of the RNLI for a number of years and recently was appointed a life vice-president.

On retirement from Dr. Jones in 1971 he was made a CBE.

For nearly 50 years he lived in Oxshott, Surrey where he played a prominent part in many local activities and where, as in the profession, he served with such distinction, his combination of acumen and humanity will be hard to replace.

He married in 1929 Freda Simes by whom he had one son and a daughter. After her death in 1935 he married Marjorie Leaver who survives him and by whom he had one son who died in infancy, and a daughter.

SIR HANNIBAL SCIULUNA

Professor R. Shackleton writes:

The many friends of Sir Hannibal Sciuluna would wish to read a longer notice of that very remarkable man. He was very proud of his links with this country; his knighthood, his fellowship of the Society of Antiquaries, his honorary degree from Oxford, his son's Rhodes Scholarship. He was a notable and discerning benefactor of the Bodleian Library, where he created and maintained a splendid collection on the history and geography of Malta, including the history of the Knights.

He exemplified all the best

traditional features of Malta, where he was an extensive landowner. His villa of San Martin was itself a museum of the history of the island. His most important publication was a substantial account, with the co-operation of St John in Valletta, published simultaneously in English and Italian. His career was one of outstanding public service to Malta, inspired always by unshakeable loyalty to the crown. On his hundredth birthday over two hundred guests came to a memorable luncheon given in his honour in Valletta. The reading of the Queen's telegram was greeted with rapturous applause.

SIR JOHN PENNYCUICK

Lord Scarman writes:

My wife and I enjoyed the privilege of John PennyCUICK's friendship for some 50 years. Deceptively diffident in manner, he was possessed of a wit and an insight into human nature which made him not only a fine judge but a delightful and entertaining companion.

Memory of a man's personal qualities fades as those who cherish the memory themselves pass on. Now then is the moment to put on record the view, which all who knew him must surely share, that he possessed in overflowing abundance the qualities which our judicial system requires of the judge of first instance.

Major Le Gendre George William Horton-Fawkes, OBE, who was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for the West Riding of Yorkshire in 1945, died on January 3 at the age of 89. He was for some years a master at Eton College.

Ray Westwood, the former Bolton Wanderers and England inside forward, died at Brierley Hill at the age of 69.

Moreover... Miles Kingston

Profile: Producer-General of the BBC.

People who know Brian Repeat well say that his appointment as the Producer-General of the BBC could lead to changes. Quiet, methodical, well-behaved in lifts and a tidy if not exciting dresser, there is a steady reserve behind the corporate facade which could, friends expect, mean that changes are on the way.

"You've got to remember that Brian is a news, not a current affairs man," says Roland Slott, assistant deputy head of Heavy Entertainment (TV). "That means almost certainly that he'll split up news presentation from light entertainment and link it with the talks and announcement department. There's bound to be ferocious opposition to this, and heads will roll, but it's a long overdue change."

How will this affect what we see on our screens?

"Oh, I don't think it will change the programmes at all," says Slott. "But it will mean a shorter walk to the club bar at lunchtime and nicer offices."

Repeat must be well aware

that the BBC's reputation for balanced broadcasting should be preserved; in fact, the post of Producer-General was specially created to counterbalance the post of Director-General, and Repeat is expected to veto most of Alasdair Milne's decisions and, of course, vice versa. Between them they hope to bring back the missing millions who go out in the evening, simply stay at home holed up trying to catch up with their video backlog.

"You've got to remember that Brian is an arts, not a science man," says Slott. "That means he'll be producing more programmes about the arts, to tempt people to the time, to tempt people to watch previews of plays and films instead of going out to see them. Also, of course, Brian is more of a signature tune, man than a content man."

What exactly does that mean?

"Well, I'm not too sure," confesses Slott. "But I heard the deputy operational controller of music and links say in the lift this morning, and it sounded impressive at the time. Of course, it's very

difficult to explain to someone outside the BBC just how changes do take place, and how you can tell afterwards if a change has, in actual point of fact, taken, as it were, place."

There is a widespread rumour that Brian Repeat may be thinking of abolishing all BBC posts whose titles do not give a clear idea of what the occupant does. What does Slott think of that?

"Oh, it's absolute rubbish. There'd be nobody left except the Director-General and the commissioners. I mean, I'm the first to admit that it's not entirely clear from my title, asst dep head of Heavy Entertainment (TV), what exactly I do, and yet it would be madness to axe someone like me."

"Well, I go up and down in lifts a lot, talking about colleagues in other lifts, and I do feel that this creative exchange of ideas is tremendously important, much more important than sitting at a desk all day, and this is where we get out for the club bar, I know it's early, but what do you say to a quick one?"

How does 'flexible rostering' affect train crews?

As part of a programme of modernisation which will transform British Rail's ability to respond to a highly competitive world, and thus keep faith with its customers, British Rail must use its resources more efficiently. Hence the need for flexible rostering, which increases train crews' productive time.

The principle was accepted by all the rail unions last August, including ASLEF. It goes hand in hand with the 39-hour week. A 7 to 9 hour day was subsequently agreed by the NUR - the largest rail union representing a sizeable proportion of the train crews.

The advantages for staff of the flexible 7 to 9 hour day, based on sample rosters, are:

- they will have more rest days over an 8-week period - from 8, at present, to not less than 9 - equal to over 6 extra days off each year;
- up to 40% fewer occasions of booking on and off between midnight and 5 a.m.;

- more rest days which can be grouped together to provide 3, 4 even 5 days off for staff at a time; and
- 80% of the rostered week's work will be within the period 37-41 hours.

Taken together, flexible rostering plus other changes to streamline working practices, as well as the effects of new investment, will lead to a smaller workforce. But this can be achieved by natural wastage.

If implemented throughout the country, flexible rostering will greatly improve productivity.

This will help keep down prices to the customer.

The majority at British Rail have accepted flexible rostering. But ASLEF refuses to budge from the rigid 8-hour day. The majority now get the full 11% pay increase.

Why is ASLEF continuing to drag its feet - denying its members the 3% increase which has had to be withheld?

British Railways Board, Rail House, Euston Square, London NW1 2DZ.

THE ARTS

Cinema

Passion without enough power

Body Heat (X)

Warner West End,
ABC Fulham Road,
ABC Bayswater

The Woman Next Door (AA)

Curzon

Escape Route to Marseilles

ICA

Fort Apache, the Bronx (AA)

Odeon Leicester Square



Fanny Ardant in Truffaut's *The Woman Next Door*

Hot on the heels of Ivan Passer's *Cutter's Way* comes another striking American thriller, *Body Heat*. Hot is the word: the action points take place in soaring temperatures deep down in Florida. Bodies sweat, electric fans whirr, the air is impenetrable.

Ned Racine, a lawyer with a roving eye, meets Matty Walker, a predatory female itching to be rid of her unattractive but wealthy husband. A murder is planned, executed and discovered.

The story outline certainly wins no marks for originality, and was never intended to. For writer-director Lawrence Kasdan conceived the venture in full knowledge of those Hollywood thrillers now grouped under the French tag film noir, just as he wrote *Raiders of the Lost Ark* in full knowledge of Hollywood's all-action adventures.

The film is particularly close to *Double Indemnity*, Billy Wilder's brilliant treatment of James M. Cain's story, in which Fred MacMurray's insurance agent helped Barbara Stanwyck do away with another unwelcome husband.

But *Body Heat* is no stuffy museum piece, for Kasdan assiduously updates his genres. The sexual tension once pinned back by terse, allusive dialogue now breaks loose in scenes of love-making fated to be described in some newspapers as "sizzling". Words of four syllables perform the task previously done by glaring looks.

Kasdan has also cast the

film (his first as director) with an astute awareness of his performers' physical allure. William Hurt (from *Altered States*) effortlessly presents the lawyer as a smooth gigolo with flimsy Establishment trappings, while Kathleen Turner (a cinema newcomer) shows the carnal instincts of her character in every toss of the hair, every husky syllable.

Indeed, the film's climate is so heady that it frequently clogs up the narrative momentum, though after the murder the plot thickens sufficiently to compensate. Kasdan's overall achievement is similarly variable. At times he achieves extraordinary visual effects (take the shots of Matty alone in the house, taunting and enticing Racine through the window); at others he achieves extraordinary effort.

One suspects that much of the credit already heaped upon Kasdan for the seductive visual surface should probably be given to his photographer, Richard H. Kline, a magician previously responsible for the sultry hues of *Mandingo* and the cold, clinical images of *The Andromeda Strain*.

The end result of all this style and ambition is an entertainment curiously similar to *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, directed from Kasdan's script by Steven Spielberg. Both are high-powered exercises in Hollywood pastiche; both have an exotic surface with insufficient substance underneath.

Violent desires are also at heart of Francois Truffaut's *The Woman Next Door*, but the body heat of this film would hardly show on a thermometer. The style is cool and elegant even when the characters are sobbing on the ground or huddled in a hectic embrace. The film's events stem from one of those magical coincidences that always occur in Truffaut's universe. The former lovers find themselves living as next-door neighbours in a cosy village near Grenoble — both are now married and happily so.

But the old flames of passion are rekindled, chiefly in a rented hotel room: ultimately the emotional strains become too great and tragedy beckons. The man in the case is Gerard Depardieu, that excellent actor of awkward shape; the woman is Fanny Ardant, a haunting, dark beauty.

Coming after the artful confection of *The Last Metro*, which occupied the same cinema in London for a good part of 1981, this seems a fairly flimsy piece of work. To be sure, there is nothing amiss with Truffaut's execution. Scenes are unfussy composed and edited, apart from one charming use of the iris effect (a rare sight now) where the focus closes in on Fanny Ardant's radiantly perplexed face.

There are endearing details that only Truffaut would give us: the telegram boy's roundabout delivery of his message at the sports club; the two lovers repeatedly phoning each other at the same moment.

The trouble is that the Truffaut of *Beauvoir's Voler* or *La Nuit Americaine* would have given us so much more. He would have moved closer to his characters, filled out the background of the village.

After Truffaut's suspect charm and facility, the rigour of his presentation at *Marseilles* appears doubly bracing. This is a 3½ hour German film about the harried flight of German refugees (mostly intellectuals) through the occupied and "free" zones of France to

Marseilles and — they hoped — safety.

One cannot call it a documentary, for the film-makers, Ingemar Engström and Gerhard Theuring, use the stylistic apparatus of advanced cinema: filtering and cleansing their historical material in the process.

So the disembodied, God-like narrator is replaced by a collage of voices, declaiming (often visibly) passages from *Transit*, the autobiographical novel by the German writer, Anna Seghers, written as it was happening in 1941. The camera's trailing shots lyrically retrace the refugees' flight along the motorways of contemporary France and ferret out surviving visual evidence of this desperate chapter in the country's history.

Sometimes there is nothing more than a sober plaque in a wall, commemorating the dead, or the weed-ridden site of an internment camp. But there is also the astonishing Oradour-sur-Glane — a village systematically destroyed and depopulated (bar one surviving woman) by the Nazis.

Engström and Theuring also weave into their film interviews with those who worked the escape route and came out living — writers like Alfred Kantorowicz and Vladimir Pozner; they have sharp, rueful memories.

Needless to say, this engrossing exercise in living history will not be found at your local ABC or the Odeon, Leicester Square; it appears at the ICA's valuable, if sparsely furnished, Cinema-que, where it plays at 6.30 pm until the end of January.

Fort Apache, the Bronx, on the other hand, will be found at the Odeon, Leicester Square. It features Paul Newman policing the Bronx Streets of New York as Patrolman Murphy. The star of *Heat*, *Cool Hand Luke* and *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* is now 56, and as a New York cop would surely be in line for early retirement. No matter: he drives around with a rookie colleague in an area rife with poverty, neglect and drug-crime, and he delivers a baby, preventing a frantic gay from jumping off a tenement, and working up an affair with a pretty Puerto Rican nurse.

All this, declares the credits, is suggested by the experiences of two former policemen from the 41st Precinct, as written by Heywood Gould and directed by Daniel Petrie, the experience only seem suggestive of other and better crime films.

Geoff Brown

Ballet

Nureyev makes it work

Hommage à Diaghilev

Châtelet, Paris

Here, for once, in contrast to all those dutiful celebrations of centenaries and other anniversaries, is a tribute to one of the great names of our artistic heritage, put on simply because he is there. And what theatre has more right to commemorate Diaghilev than the Châtelet, where his company gave its first season in 1909 and, in ensuing years, gave the premieres of two of the ballets in this season, *Petrushka* and *L'Après-midi d'un faune*.

The former is given, by the Ballet Théâtre Français and its guest stars, in a production by Serge Colovine which has a liveliness that has eluded all the many English stagings of the ballet. Partly that comes from being given on a stage that is the right size for it: neither too big for the middle scenes of domestic drama, nor too small for the fair where it begins and ends.

Incidentally, what a pleasure it is to see the settings taken from Benois's original designs, better than any of his innumerable revisions. The booths in the foreground of the fair are small, the building behind them huge. Even more important is the understanding of the ballet's point and style which Colovine acquires by studying it under Bronislava Nijinska, herself a member of the ballet's first cast, 70 years ago. We have seen *Petrushka* danced by companies larger and stronger than BTF, but not with more spirit or sharper focus. Besides the animation they bring to the ensembles, BTF can field a respectable trio from the leading parts, who are dancing the Saturday matinee during the Paris season: Alicia Gorki's Moor is particularly good.

It has to be admitted, however, that much more excitement comes from the assembly of guests who are playing the other performances. Rudolf Nureyev's performance of *Petrushka* is well-contrasted by the bulk and bluster of Rudy Bryans as the Moor, and Dominique Khalifouni brings a keenly ironic humour to the rapid flirtatiousness of the ballerina doll. Unfortunately, Khalifouni's sophisticated manner is less well-suited to the other Folies ballet being given, *Nureyev dances both those ballets and also Faune* in which I saw BTF's Françoise



L'Après-midi d'un faune: Nureyev and nymph

Dubuc as the chief nymph: 1 wish it could have been backed by equal success in the musical side of the programme, but the playing of the Orchestra Colonne under Charles Vanderzand is at best adequate, and in the remaining ballet, *Les Biches*, very ragged. In spite of that, *Biches* is perhaps the most impressive of BTF's contributions to the season.

It is being given only at the Saturday matinee, when it takes the place of *Specimen* and *Faune*. Rudy Bryans, with his impressive musculature and sharp articulation, might have been born to play the leading man; his determined but inscrutable pursuit of the ambiguous garçonne is abetted by Khalifouni's beautiful playing of that role.

Hacène Bahri and Patrick Armand, as the other two men, keep up with Bryans in their tough, staccato opening dance, and Irnguish deliciously in the attentions of the infatuated women. Francoise Dubuc ought, by rights, to look far too young as the hostess, but she dances her rag mazurka so well, and puts on such an air of sophistication, that she carries it off.

The season continues until January 31.

John Percival

London debuts

Classics of the repertoire for oboe, bassoon and piano do not readily spring to mind, yet the City of London Trio was able to put together a well-varied programme. A Trio by Michael Head proved to be rather Frenchified and as such suffered in comparison with the delightful Poulenc Trio at the other end of the evening.

The mastery of Saint-Saëns's Bassoon Sonata might appear casual but in fact is absolutely focussed, and although this music's urgency may seem at odds with the bassoon's character, it received a smooth performance from Frances Eustace and Richard Graves.

Mr Graves played Prokofiev's Piano Sonata No.3 fluently and sympathetically, though the phrasing was always delineated with sufficient clarity. He had an imperfect understanding, of

Bartók's Improvisations Op.20, which suffered from various exaggerations, yet he excellently partnered Gillian Carter in Hindemith's Oboe Sonata, which had a very spry performance.

So too did Gordon Jacob's Three Pieces for Oboe and Bassoon, spiced with bits of counterpoint. Another modern piece was Michael Finnissy's *Kerouac*, commissioned by the City of London Trio. An initially confusing score, this had much density, seemingly random, figuration by all three instruments relieved by slow spare lines for the wind players.

Another good programme was offered by Morton Estrin, and his enterprise was matched by the confidence and decisiveness of his playing. James Cohn's Sonata No.4 lacked original ideas but was written in such a way as to display the performer's extensive technique, a large tonal and dynamic range. The darkly agitated Variations of Meyer Kupferman were far more interesting, and well-suited by the lean sound of the Baldwin piano which replaced the familiar Wignore Hall Steinway.

The account of Scriabin's Etudes Op.8 was more flattering to both the 12 pieces and to Mr Estrin than his recording, available here several years ago. They are relentlessly demanding, but he did justice to the fugitive lyricism which rides this music's groundswell of sombre violence; the fullest, most detailed textures taken at hair-raising speeds were comfortably within his powers and were carried off without loss of tone, clarity

or incidental nuance. Chopin's Andante spianato showed that Mr Estrin could draw a softer-edged tone from the Baldwin, and the following Grande Polonaise, despite a brief memory lapse, more than confirmed his virtuosity.

In comparison, Nina Belina was not fortunate in her choice of programme — a dull late Shostakovich sonata (Op.134) and duller early Britten suite (Op.5) — and it was as well that he — remaining pieces were by Bach and Mozart. The latter's Sonata K.526 was beautifully played, the violinist's tone being pure yet always expressive and individual in quality.

It was a pleasure, also, to hear Lamar Crowson at the piano again. His playing in the Mozart was exquisite. With Bach's D minor Partita, as with the Shostakovich, one had the impression of a violin technique equal to all demands. She passed from one ascending series of mountain peaks, each dance genre being finely characterized, the intonation secure in the multi-steps, the phrasing exact yet free as the flight of a bird.

Curtis Watson put together a mainly Russian and English programme, and had good diction in both languages, and in German. A group of familiar Schubert lieder displayed his large, firm baritone voice, the phrases decisively shaped, the tone shaded with sensitivity. He produced a lovely sound, too, in Rachmaninov's "The Dream" and "Lilacs", excellently projecting their sultry moods, particularly the latter's quiet rapture.

Max Harrison

Medea

Theatro Technis

At least one of the many indistinguishable listings magazines in London called the *Medea* of Euripides *Medea* for its presentation at the Theatro Technis. There is a slight accuracy in that, since the director of north London's temple to Greek theatre has tried to expand the tragedy to relate it to the kind of poetry recital that is Liverpool's gift to the nation.

Supported with a little music and a few simple light changes, it shows the partners off in the twin roles of poets and performers, whose first rule is to maintain friendly contact with the customers. From anything approaching high culture, they retreat as nervously as one of their own literary hostesses detecting an evil smell in the guests' cloakroom. Mr Patten has a poem called "Celestial Music" which bumps down to earth with the sound of a girl singing in the bath. Likewise they are both on their guard at seeming too expert on stage; and if they do happen to make a strong gesture, or a declamatory utterance, they are quick to stamp on it and come down to our level as two ordinary chaps holding books.

After all this time, they know what they are doing; this is a genuinely popular entertainment, and the one thing you cannot accuse it of is philistinism.

It may lure you inside with a mock-television interview treating poetry as a form of drug addiction ("I saw some older boys do it," and it

tragedy. It can, but not by mistaking temporary politics for fundamental truth: that would be farce.

Ned Chaillet

Behind the Lines

Tricycle

This programme reunites the old Mersey team of Roger McGough and Brian Patten in the kind of poetry recital that is Liverpool's gift to the nation.

Supported with a little music and a few simple light changes, it shows the partners off in the twin roles of poets and performers, whose first rule is to maintain friendly contact with the customers. From anything approaching high culture, they retreat as nervously as one of their own literary hostesses detecting an evil smell in the guests' cloakroom. Mr Patten has a poem called "Celestial Music" which bumps down to earth with the sound of a girl singing in the bath. Likewise they are both on their guard at seeming too expert on stage; and if they do happen to make a strong gesture, or a declamatory utterance, they are quick to stamp on it and come down to our level as two ordinary chaps holding books.

After all this time, they know what they are doing; this is a genuinely popular entertainment, and the one thing you cannot accuse it of is philistinism.

It may lure you inside with a mock-television interview treating poetry as a form of drug addiction ("I saw some older boys do it," and it

looked like harmless fun"), but by the end you come out having enjoyed some very good poems.

The programme is structured around recurring routines that bring Patten and McGough together in haunted unison and question-and-answer exchanges (depending on too much cataloguing), which supply enough foundation for them to do extended solo spots of their own material, plus an interlude anthology from Holub, Betjeman, Verity, Bargeat, Adrian Mitchell and other admired colleagues.

Patten, with his forbidding romantic looks and sinister gentleness, is the more intense of the pair; and when the work takes over, as in his fine piece on Stevie Smith and the fable of the music-loving sparrows, his eyes close and it is up to the listener to follow him or be left behind. McGough is a much more the entertainer, a leprechaun with words, no less than in appearance, breaking up atmosphere with riddles, poems for the audience to complete for themselves, and quips like the one about the girl who caught a strange, obese notwithstanding. Always obedient to their public, each turns in a Merseyside broadside on the Royal Wedding; but there are better items on offer than that — McGough's Cup Final tribute to Houseman, "Is My Team Playing?" to name but one.

Irving Wardle

● Mai Zetterling is to direct a new production for Hand-Made Films. The film, as yet untitled, centres on women in prison.

Television

Those wishing for confirmation that the British are a nation of eccentrics could find no better occasion than the annual veteran-car run from London to Brighton, that annual celebration of the supremacy of mind over mechanics.

Brighton or Bust was the subject of Harry Weisbloom's delightfully observed Forty Minutes documentary on BBC2 last night. It appears that the word "bust" need not necessarily apply solely to cars but to bank accounts, for keeping these cars on the road — to qualify they have to originate not later than December 31, 1904 — requires not only hours of

work but loads of money. The costs had gone "berserk", said Johnny Thomas, a veteran of the run, who gave thanks for an understanding bank manager who helped him only when it was absolutely necessary. He explained that the wreck he was working on would be worth more than £25,000 when he had finished.

Forty Minutes concentrated on the 1981 run where Mr Thomas and his son Christopher were driving "Binks", a 15-year-old Darracq Flying 15. "It goes like a dingbat," she reported. Her husband obviously has a lot of faith in her good

humour: "He puts me in a car and says 'Get on and drive it'."

It is by no means a male-only sport and appears to be infectious in families. The sisters Amanda and Deborah Bennett, who finished the race in their Panhard, said they had taken over on the death of their father so that the family calendar — Christmas, birthdays and London to Brighton — could be complete.

A wife told without resentment how she was jettisoned when hills were rather steep and, in one extremity, had been left behind altogether to make her own way. It seems that anything goes to make

things go and enthusiasm here knows no bounds.

Mr Thomas said he would be driving in the Peking to Paris run this year, which celebrates the race of 75 years ago. He will be taking the Darracq but not Binks. Good humour cannot be limited.

Documentary of a more sombre kind has been the business of 83-year-old Joris Ivens, who appeared earlier on BBC 2 talking about his work, his politics, and showing some of his films to a group of people from the Kentish mining community of Betchingham. The excerpts we glimpsed seemed compelling. Mr Ivens, a Dutchman, is something of a

cinematic Zola and has had occasional trouble getting some of his films shown. "Too much reality," said a French censorship board about one of them in 1934, and this was the title of the programme.

He found much in common with the mining group and they with him, but the encounter, fascinating to watch, was somehow not entirely understandable.

Mr Ivens will be showing and talking about excerpts from the film he made in China in 1973 with his associate Marceline Loidan, on BBC 2 on Sunday afternoon.

Dennis Hackett

Theatre Royal Haymarket

A Season of plays
Opens Feb.11 at 7.0
PENELOPE KEITH
ANTHONY QUAYLE
TREVOR PEACOCK

in
HOBSON'S CHOICE

A Comedy by HAROLD BRIGHOUSE
DIRECTED BY
RONALD EYRE

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adapted from the novel by CESNAU

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crafts council

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A winner
Sheridan Morley, LBC

John Alderton
perfect
Nigel Hawthorne
triumphs of farcical rhetoric
in repertoire of The Young Vic

Stock Exchange Prices

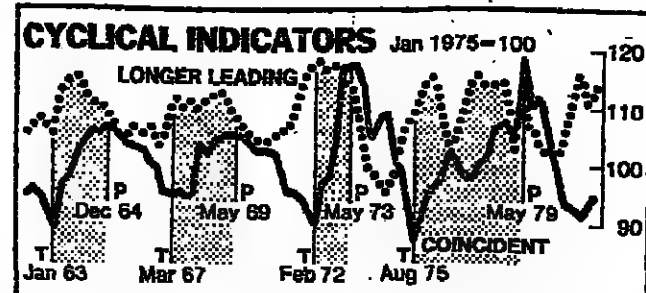
Equities advance

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 11. Dealings End Today. § Contango Day, Jan 25. Settlement Day, Feb 1.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]

BUSINESS NEWS

Doubts on recovery



The recession touched bottom last April, according to the latest set of indicators which track the course of the business cycle. The provisional upturn in the longer leading index in November and December — which signals turning-points about a year ahead — interrupted a sharp drop which suggested hesitation in economic recovery this year.

De Lorean pessimism

Mr John De Lorean, chairman of the De Lorean car company, was having discussions with Mr James Prior, Secretary for Northern Ireland, last night about the firm's future. Union sources feared 500 to 1,000 redundancies among employees in West Belfast as a result of De Lorean's failure to secure at least £36m from the Government to overcome a trading slump in the United States.

800,000 jobs lost

Small businesses lost 800,000 jobs in 1981, the Forum of Private Business claimed yesterday, basing its estimate on the fact that 12 per cent of its 8,000 members laid off an average three employees because of higher interest rates. It said far fewer jobs were created.

Tootal hit

Tootal, the shirts and textiles group, is to close its dress fabrics printing plant at Manchester, with the loss of 600 jobs, partly because of the growth in imports. Marketing operations at Manchester, Luton and London will also end.

Cincinnati Milacron, the American machine-tool manufacturer, is making 427 of its 2,200 employees redundant at Birmingham, Biggleswade, and Luton. The union branch official blamed Japanese competition.

● Discount houses will show surprising profit strength. Page 14
● Be wary of tin shares. Page 14
● The SDP economic policy is taking shape. Page 15

ACC in court

The future of Mr Robert Holmes & Court's £36m takeover bid for Associated Communications Corporation would depend on a High Court hearing today. Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron Corporation, which says it proposes to bid £42.5m for the company, will argue that the Independent Broadcasting Authority would be in breach of its duty if it allowed the transfer of ACC shares to Mr Holmes & Court. Its approval is needed for any ACC share transactions because of its 51 per cent ownership of Central Independent Television.

If the move fails, Mr Holmes & Court is now in a position to clinch a takeover. He was released from any Takeover Panel rules today, which means he can now buy the remaining voting shares promised to him.

Laker sale

Bankers in the Midlands loan syndicate which lent Laker Airways \$131m to buy three A-300 airbuses could get their money back within six months. The plan was to use the sale proceeds to buy back the shares. Full details of the complicated Laker rescue package are likely to emerge in a few weeks.

● The SDP economic policy is taking shape. Page 15

Securities dealers to face tighter controls

By Lorna Bourke

Tough new measures to control the activities of licensed dealers in securities were published yesterday by the Department of Trade in a comprehensive document which could easily become law within a few months.

The proposals give clients who use the investment services of a licensed dealer much greater protection against insolvency and fraud, and have been drawn up after the collapse of three licensed dealers last year.

The two main proposals are that clients' money should be kept in a separate trust account with a bank, and that professional indemnity and fidelity insurance would become a prerequisite of a licence being granted.

Mr Robin Hodgson, chairman of the newly named National Association of Security Dealers and Investment Managers, said: "We are glad to see something being done at last and the association broadly welcomes the new proposals."

The proposals broadly follow the association's recommendations to the Department of Trade and it seems likely that they will be adopted with only minor amendments and could come into force by May or June of this year.

New applicants for licences will then have to give more detailed information about themselves and the way in which they intend to run their business.

Six monthly returns, certified by an independent accountant, will have to be filed with the Department of Trade and the penalty for not complying with this requirement will be instant loss of licence with no appeal.

"The new rules are sufficiently tough for some licensed dealers out of the total of 350, to consider turning in their licences, rather than comply. Some in the City feel that the biggest deficiency of the regulations is that they cover only a small proportion of investment advisers."

"Our view is that there has got to be a comprehensive system said Mr Hodgson. "The fundamental problem is that the new proposals do not cover the vast majority of small investment advisers and we would like to see the regulations made comprehensive."

With very little amendment, the new regulations could be extended to cover the whole range of investment advisers and effectively form the basis of a new Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act. The present one is widely accepted as being totally inadequate and out of date.

Professor Laurence Gower, of the Department of Trade, commissioned by the Government to review the current FPI Act, will be producing a preliminary discussion document next Tuesday. This is expected to come down heavily in favour of self-regulation by the various City institutions.

This solution would not, however, deal with the thousands of small investment advisers who are now subject to almost no legislative constraints.

The Government has made it plain that it is not prepared to produce a new Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act in the life of this Parliament, but the publication of both the new Licensed Dealers regulations and Professor Gower's discussion document will fuel City pressure for immediate legislation.

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Institutions invest more at home

By David Blake

Britain's financial institutions put more money into British companies and less overseas in the third quarter of last year. The drop in overseas investment was the first significant one since the end of exchange controls in 1979. It suggests that the institutions feel they have adjusted the proportion of their assets held abroad to nearer their target figure.

New estimates published by the Central Statistical Office yesterday also show that in the third quarter of 1981 less money went into gilts and house purchase loans and more was kept as liquid assets.

The figures show that, in the three months to the end of September, financial institutions had a total inflow of funds of £6,100m down from £7,000m in the second quarter. There was a £500m drop in building societies deposits to £1,600m. A drop is usual in the third quarter.

Insurance and pension funds received £3,300m up from the £3,100m in the second quarter. There was a £600m drop in the amount which the institutions spent on buying gilts, down to £1,100m from £1,700m. Investment overseas was down to £400m from £800m in the second quarter. This implies that overseas investment in stocks and shares was slightly higher than estimated when balance of payments figures were published last month.

The reason for the big drop in gilts buying is that building societies, who use gilts as one of their main assets, had less money to spend. But it was the pension funds and insurance companies who dominated the buying of British shares, which went up from £500m to £700m.

The German rate cut was probably inspired by political considerations in Bonn. Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, who is looking at ways to boost employment, was host to a meeting of employers, trade unionists and Federal Bank officials including Herr Karl Otto Poehl, the president of the central bank. Herr Schmidt has often said that lower interest rates are the best way of creating new jobs.

A brief explanation of today's decision, the Federal Bank said that the rate reduction was intended to keep the Lombard rate in line with lower money market interest rates.

However, some bankers believe that these lower rates were engineered by recent big purchases of government stock by the Federal Bank which have pushed liquidity into the banking system.

In London, money market rates continued to ease, with speculation that a small cut in bank base rates may be possible soon. (John Whitmore writes). Most bankers continue to take a cautious line, however, and feel that market rates need to fall further over the next few days to make an early cut in lending rates a serious possibility.

Business Editor P15

Germany cuts key loan rate

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Jan 21

The West German and Dutch central banks today decided to clip a half percentage point off their key interest rates. Market rates in London also fell for the fourth successive day.

The West German Federal Bank Council, which met in Hamburg today, announced a reduction from 10.5 per cent to 10 per cent in the special Lombard rate at which it lends funds to commercial banks against collateral.

Shortly afterwards the Dutch National Bank said it would cut bank rate by 0.5 per cent to 8.5 per cent and Lombard rate 9.5 per cent from 10 per cent.

Although the Dutch move was prompted partly by the German reduction, today's interest rate cuts do not appear to have been coordinated in advance.

He says formal talks will start soon, but denied reports that the *Evening Standard* was crucial to the de-merger because it bears a high profile in the Express Newspapers headlines.

He said: "Even if they don't agree we go ahead. We can live without the *Evening Standard* being in-cluded. I suspect that Associated will try to get as much out of this as they can."

Lord Matthews said that the Inland Revenue agreed to the de-merger about 10 days ago. The prospectus, due in a few weeks, is likely to show that the terms will be one new share in Fleet Holdings for every four shares held in Trafalgar House.

He says he expected to have a substantial stake, but less than 5 per cent, and will spend around one day a week working as the Fleet's chairman. Express Newspapers will announce the appointment of a new chief executive for Fleet in ten days. Lord Matthews declined to name him but said he will be from outside the Express Group and complete the six-man board of Fleet. It will include Mr Michael Murphy, managing director of Express Newspapers. That position was formerly held by Mr Jocelyn Stevens whose dismissal payment has now been agreed.

Lord Matthews who is also a director of Lord Grade's old company, Associated Communications Corporation, said: "It is not in the Jack Gill class. It is reasonable on both sides."

Both the UAW and GM had set a January 23 deadline for a tentative contract agreement to be presented to the 300-member GM council. Ford Motor Company has a similar agreement with the union which said it plans soon to resume talks with Ford.

The apparent collapse of the talks comes at a particularly troubled time for American labour unions which have experienced mounting lay-offs and plant closures. Only recently two other large American unions — the Teamsters' Union and the United Food and Commercial Workers International — agreed to wage freezes for the life of multi-year contracts to protect union jobs in their industries.

Base Lending Rates

Bank	Rate
ABN Bank	14 1/2%
Barclays	14 1/2%
BCCI	14 1/2%
Consolidated Crds	14 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co	14 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	14 1/2%
Midland Bank	14 1/2%
Nat Westminster	14 1/2%
TSB	14 1/2%
Williams & Glyn's	14 1/2%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and over 12 1/2%
£50,000 13 1/2%
£250,000 15 1/2%



Lord Matthews after yesterday's board meeting

Trafalgar plan hinges on rivals' approval

Lord Matthews after yesterday's board meeting

Trafalgar House proposal to float off its Express Newspapers as part of a separate publishing company, has yet to get the approval of its major rival, Associated Newspapers.

Lord Matthews's Associated chain, which includes the *Daily Mail*, is involved because it jointly owns the *Daily Express* and is thought to be arguing that a transfer of Trafalgar's stake to the new group, Fleet Holdings, breaks the original joint agreement drawn up more than a year ago when the *Evening News* was closed.

Lord Matthews said yesterday, after Trafalgar shareholders had approved the de-merger plans, that informal talks with Associated Newspapers had left him with the impression that they were not happy about the deal.

He says formal talks will start soon, but denied reports that the *Evening Standard* was crucial to the de-merger because it bears a high profile in the Express Newspapers headlines.

He said: "Even if they don't agree we go ahead. We can live without the *Evening Standard* being in-cluded. I suspect that Associated will try to get as much out of this as they can."

Pilkington loses battle with Inland Revenue

By Drew Johnston

Pilkington Brothers, the St Helens-based glass producers, yesterday became the third major British company in three months to lose a court battle with the Inland Revenue.

A 3 to 2 House of Lords decision axed a Pilkington scheme to set off acquired trading losses of £13m against profits. Last November ICI lost in its attempt to provide tax-free scholarships for the children of senior employees, and the following month Burnham Oil lost in its bid to claim £160m of capital gains tax losses through use of an elaborate tax avoidance scheme.

Yesterday's decision threw the tax world into confusion since it highlighted the differing interpretations of tax avoidance schemes among the judges of the Chancery Division and the Lords.

Shortly before Christmas, a High Court judge upheld a tax avoidance scheme in the case of Furniss v Dawson, but the Lords have consistently found against such schemes since the Ramsay decision last March. This effectively ended artificial tax avoidance schemes, but the legal battlefield has now moved on to question the legality of all arrangements to avoid or reduce tax.

A leading tax practitioner, Mr Philip Hardman, of accountants Thornton Baker, said the present situation could not be allowed to continue. "It is high time that lawyers and accountants sat down with the Inland Revenue to work out where the application of the Ramsay decision ends," he said.

Pilkington bought £13m of capital allowances from Manchester Liners for £5.9m in order to save tax of £6.76m.

The company will continue its advertising campaign worth around £1m a year for Haig with another £400,000 going into sponsorship of sports such as golf and track events. The biggest problem will be turning round Haig's declining popularity with the younger generation of whisky drinkers.

Haig's market position is far from desperate, according to Mr Joseph, but clearly the brand's only real hope is to regain its one-time market leadership. Mr Joseph sees some encouragement in the way the periods of market leadership have been reduced. Certainly Bell's has been showing some signs of being under pressure, with difficulties in maintaining higher profit margins in supermarket sales.

Business Editor, Page 15

GM may close plants as talks fail

General Motors Corporation may begin closing down plants in beleaguered United States communities in following the collapse of new contract talks with the United Auto Workers Union.

Company officials yesterday warned of further lay-offs and plant closures if negotiations break down completely.

Both General Motors and Ford Motor Company, have begun unprecedented bargaining talks to negotiate wage and benefit concessions that will lower labour costs substantially.

Mr Douglas Fraser, president of the UAW, announced yesterday that talks with General Motors' management had been broken off after a lengthy session ended in stalemate.

A union official said negotiators had been unable to resolve differences over the size of the labour savings sought by General Motors and the growing use by the company of car parts manufactured outside the United States.

Plants thought to be most at risk are those which manufacture parts and components which General Motors can obtain more cheaply and readily from overseas suppliers.

The UAW, which agreed to new talks in an effort to save threatened jobs, has been pressing the company for limitation on the use of outside suppliers.

Earlier, it appeared that the UAW and GM were very close to signing a new contract which would allow GM to lower car prices by as much as \$1,200 a unit because of wage concessions from the union.

General Motors had asked for \$5 an hour reduction in non-wage compensation from UAW members who average \$20.83 an hour in wage and fringe benefits.

Union negotiators agreed to consider the reductions only if the savings were passed on to consumers in the form of lower car prices. The size of the reduction, however, could not be agreed upon.

Mr Fraser was yesterday disappointed that talks had been broken off, adding there was a slim possibility for resumption after he met with the union's executive board.

Both the UAW and GM had set a January 23 deadline for a tentative contract agreement to be presented to the 300-member GM council. Ford Motor Company has a similar agreement with the union which said it plans soon to resume talks with Ford.

The apparent collapse of the talks comes at a particularly troubled time for American labour unions which have experienced mounting lay-offs and plant closures. Only recently two other large American unions — the Teamsters' Union and the United Food and Commercial Workers International — agreed to wage freezes for the life of multi-year contracts to protect union jobs in their industries.

Battle for whisky leadership

Haig sheds that vague image

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

The leadership battle in the whisky market that has seen a sales plunge of up to 14 per cent this past year entered a new round yesterday. Haig, part of Distillers Company, put on a new packaging face which it hopes will turn the tide that started running against this brand a dozen or so years ago.

Haig, which has been in a dumpy, amber-coloured bottle throughout its 60 years' life, was market leader in standard brand whiskies back in the sixties. But it was first overtaken by Teacher's and then by the standard brand of Arthur Bell & Sons. Bell's, now with around 25 per cent market share, out-paced Teacher's as market leader when it scooped up sales after Distillers took Johnnie Walker Red Label off the British market following a brush with the European Commission on harmonized pricing.

Teachers is thought now to have just under 20 per cent market share, with Haig at only 10 per cent. Even that share was under threat from brands like Highland Distillers' Famous Grouse which is still increasing its market share. There is also the problem that in a recession spending tends in food and drink to polarise to the ends of the price spectrum. Distillers' cheaper brand, Claymore, which sells mainly through the take-home trade by the supermarket, is selling almost as much in volume as Haig. Sales of de luxe blends, including Distillers' Johnnie Walker Black Label and Dimple Haig, have also been showing relative strength during the whisky sales decline.

John Haig and Company was sufficiently worried that it mounted a £40,000 research programme to find out what had gone wrong. Everything pointed to that amber bottle which obscured the whisky's colour and was regarded as awkward and clumsy, according to Mr George Joseph, Haig's senior home trade director.

So the whisky itself, which

The company will continue its advertising campaign worth around £1m a year for Haig with another £400,000 going into sponsorship of sports such as golf and track events. The biggest problem will be turning round Haig's declining popularity with the younger generation of whisky drinkers.

Business Editor, Page 15

Market Summary

Miners cheer shares

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 559.1 up 13.3
FT Gilt 83.93 up 0.28
FT All-share 319.39 up 4.81
Bargains 20,134

The miners' decision to accept the National Coal Board's pay offer of 9.9 per cent also received the "thumbs up" from the market yesterday with a strong after hours boost.

At least £1,500m was added to the value of shares as equities again surged ahead with strong two way business, with the FT index closing at its high for the day 13.3 up at 559.1.

Only Ultramar failed to share in the celebrations losing 12p to 433p, amid rumours of a possible rights issue, later denied by the company. The selling was in fact a result of a bearish circular from brokers Scott Golf Hancock who have become disenchanted with the group's growth potential.

Gilts recovered from a hesitant start to close with rises of up to 11 in longs and 2 1/2 in shorts as further evidence appeared of an easing in worldwide interest rates.

After this week's surge in buying, the market is expecting another round of government financing later today.

The increase in turnover also allowed a few big sellers to unload stock.

A line of 400,000 Distillers shares were offloaded with the price shedding 1p to 163p. There were also 200,000 Plessey on offer at 360p which failed to affect the closing price of 363p, unchanged.

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$ 1.8810 down 35 points
Index 91.4 unchanged
DM 4.3250
Fr F 11.0050
Yen 425.20
Dollar Index 108.9 down 0.2
DM 2.2965 down 92 points
Gold \$ 377.75 up \$ 4.75

COMMODITIES

● Economic and mining analysts are forecasting that prices of base metals should be much higher by the end of the year and that they will climb faster in the first half of 1983. London brokers Bache Halsey Stuart point to forecasts that there will be a copper supply deficit in each of the years 1982 to 1985 leading to a sustained rise in prices.

● A group of speculators has alleged in New York Federal district court that two United States commodity futures exchanges and several big metal trading companies manipulated silver and gold prices in a conspiracy leading to the price crashes of 1980.

TODAY

Retail sales
Haynes Publishing — half year
Sterling Trust — finals

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: The Nikkei Dow Jones index rose 20.28 to 7,737.51.
Hongkong: The Hang Seng index fell 16.62 points to 1,380.46.

MONEY MARKETS

3 mth INTEREST RATES



● Interest rates continue to fall. The Bank gave 556m help in the face of a £500m shortage, cutting its Bank 1 dealing rate to 14 per cent from 14 1/2 per cent.

Domestic rates:
Base rates 14 1/2%
3-month interbank 14 1/4-14 1/2%

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 14 1/4-14 1/2%
3 month DM 10 1/4-10 1/2%
3 month Fr F 15

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

DISCOUNT HOUSES

Small companies under strain but still in favour

News of higher losses from Smith St Aubyn yesterday did not put the discount house sector as a whole out of favour for one very good reason. There are high hopes of higher dividends from some of the stronger houses, and the reporting season starts on Monday.

The £20m gilt market losses by Smith St Aubyn, recently the fastest growing discount house, has also focused attention on the strains that these small companies are suffering. They are vastly undercapitalised compared with the volume of business they are handling. The Bank of England uses the market as the vehicle through which it controls liquidity in the money markets.

Their method of functioning is basically to sell long term, while borrowing very short term. This is why they are so vulnerable to changes in interest rates, and why life is so difficult under government money market to move to widely.

The houses are allowed to run books that are on average 30 times their capital bases. But with the money markets handling tens of billions of pounds, these houses look very small. Capital bases have not been estimated. They are not published officially. A glance at some of the better guesses will explain why there are strong advocates of mergers among some of the smaller houses. Need to be able to handle individual houses themselves are mostly highly unsympathetic to arguments in favour of mergers.



Discount broker yesterday: higher dividends expected.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI

Why a German bid is so tempting

How much would it cost to buy a good German bank? Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation is thought to be running its calculations over the books after its failure to capture the Royal Bank of Scotland as the base of a major European division.

Investors are staying away from the German banks. The market generally should benefit from lower German interest rates, and an expected rise in the Deutsche mark this year. German banks are depressed by the weight of the unpaid loans to

Poland, and — good news for Hongkong and Shanghai — their share prices are languishing.

Buying cost for a major bank in Germany would be very much in line with the price HSBC was prepared to pay for the Royal Bank.

The jewel in the German banking scene — as HSBC well knows, having a outlet in Frankfurt — is the Deutsche Bank. Cost of this bank would be very expensive, around £1,400m at today's market price. But it is very well respected, is not over-extended on Polish

BRITISH TELECOM

Branching out into electronic mail

British Telecom is to fund a new company called BT Gold which will market electronic mail for the corporation, but the ownership of the company will be in the hands of two independent chartered accountants.

Mr Jonathan Hoffman and Mr Howard Kenton both own 50 per cent of this new company, whose entire income becomes that of British Telecom. The new company will in turn be paid a fee by British Telecom to cover its management and operational costs.

According to British Telecom, the new company, which is not a subsidiary, is to provide a small, specialist group of people who are able to respond quickly to take advantage of this new market. The company will be based in London and is expected to be operational by the spring.

Mr Hoffman and Mr Kenton have been chosen, according to British Telecom, because they have particular experience in running such an operation.

The electronic mail service is the first value added service from British Telecom since the passage of the Telecommunications Act, which allows the corporation to form partnerships and subsidiaries for specific operations.

The electronic mail service of BT Gold is based on that of the American company Dialcom.

The new company will also be managed by a new division of British Telecom, called BT Enterprises, which was set up last year to control the subsidiary activities of the corporation.

INTERNATIONAL



FRANCE

Shareholders in the French Bank Credit Commercial de France (CCS) and Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas (Paribas) and of the industrial group Compagnie Generale d'Electricite (CGE) emerged as the main beneficiaries of the French government's new compensation proposals submitted to the National Assembly in its revised Nationalization Bill.

France improved its energy self-sufficiency last year with the country providing 35 per cent of its own energy needs compared to 29 per cent in 1980. The government has set target of 50 per cent self-sufficiency by 1990.

JAPAN

Nippon Electric says it plans to increase sales of industrial robots to about 2,000 units a year by 1985, which would be ten times current annual sales.

Zenko Suzuki, Japan's prime minister, has accepted a report from the Japanese economic council revising Japan's estimated average nominal economic growth in the fiscal 1979-85 period, down to 9.5 per cent from 11.2 per cent.

UNITED STATES

A new report says about 25 per cent of Florida's citrus crop and half of south Florida's winter vegetable crop were lost during last week's freeze.

AUSTRALIA

Imports of fully assembled cars by Australia fell to 46,345 units in the six months to December 1981, down from 60,325 in the preceding half year.

INDIA

Mr Kenneth Baker, the British minister of state for industries, said in New Delhi that he had discussed with the Indian government ways and means of increasing and diversifying trade between India and Britain and establishing joint ventures in third countries.

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION to the holders of

SUNDSTRAND FINANCE INTERNATIONAL N.V.

9% Guaranteed Sinking Fund Notes Due 1983

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to the Fiscal Agency Agreement dated as of February 15, 1976, there has been selected for redemption on February 15, 1982 (payable on or after February 16, 1982), through operation of the Sinking Fund, \$1,999,000 principal amount of SUNDSTRAND FINANCE INTERNATIONAL N.V. 9% Guaranteed Sinking Fund Notes Due 1983. The following are the serial numbers of the Sinking Fund Notes which will be redeemed:

Definitive Sinking Fund Notes in the principal amount of \$1,000, bearing the prefix DM to be redeemed in whole.

11	573	804	1458	1987	2701	3167	3230	3507	3743	4092	4165	4496	4805	4919	5252	5623	5808	5451	10761
12	574	805	1459	1988	2702	3168	3231	3508	3744	4093	4166	4497	4806	4920	5253	5624	5809	5452	10762
13	575	806	1460	1989	2703	3169	3232	3509	3745	4094	4167	4498	4807	4921	5254	5625	5810	5453	10763
14	576	807	1461	1990	2704	3170	3233	3510	3746	4095	4168	4499	4808	4922	5255	5626	5811	5454	10764
15	577	808	1462	1991	2705	3171	3234	3511	3747	4096	4169	4500	4809	4923	5256	5627	5812	5455	10765
16	578	809	1463	1992	2706	3172	3235	3512	3748	4097	4170	4501	4810	4924	5257	5628	5813	5456	10766
17	579	810	1464	1993	2707	3173	3236	3513	3749	4098	4171	4502	4811	4925	5258	5629	5814	5457	10767
18	580	811	1465	1994	2708	3174	3237	3514	3750	4099	4172	4503	4812	4926	5259	5630	5815	5458	10768
19	581	812	1466	1995	2709	3175	3238	3515	3751	4100	4173	4504	4813	4927	5260	5631	5816	5459	10769
20	582	813	1467	1996	2710	3176	3239	3516	3752	4101	4174	4505	4814	4928	5261	5632	5817	5460	10770
21	583	814	1468	1997	2711	3177	3240	3517	3753	4102	4175	4506	4815	4929	5262	5633	5818	5461	10771
22	584	815	1469	1998	2712	3178	3241	3518	3754	4103	4176	4507	4816	4930	5263	5634	5819	5462	10772
23	585	816	1470	1999	2713	3179	3242	3519	3755	4104	4177	4508	4817	4931	5264	5635	5820	5463	10773
24	586	817	1471	2000	2714	3180	3243	3520	3756	4105	4178	4509	4818	4932	5265	5636	5821	5464	10774
25	587	818	1472	2001	2715	3181	3244	3521	3757	4106	4179	4510	4819	4933	5266	5637	5822	5465	10775
26	588	819	1473	2002	2716	3182	3245	3522	3758	4107	4180	4511	4820	4934	5267	5638	5823	5466	10776
27	589	820	1474	2003	2717	3183	3246	3523	3759	4108	4181	4512	4821	4935	5268	5639	5824	5467	10777
28	590	821	1475	2004	2718	3184	3247	3524	3760	4109	4182	4513	4822	4936	5269	5640	5825	5468	10778
29	591	822	1476	2005	2719	3185	3248	3525	3761	4110	4183	4514	4823	4937	5270	5641	5826	5469	10779
30	592	823	1477	2006	2720	3186	3249	3526	3762	4111	4184	4515	4824	4938	5271	5642	5827	5470	10780
31	593	824	1478	2007	2721	3187	3250	3527	3763	4112	4185	4516	4825	4939	5272	5643	5828	5471	10781
32	594	825	1479	2008	2722	3188	3251	3528	3764	4113	4186	4517	4826	4940	5273	5644	5829	5472	10782
33	595	826	1480	2009	2723	3189	3252	3529	3765	4114	4187	4518	4827	4941	5274	5645	5830	5473	10783
34	596	827	1481	2010	2724	3190	3253	3530	3766	4115	4188	4519	4828	4942	5275	5646	5831	5474	10784
35	597	828	1482	2011	2725	3191	3254	3531	3767	4116	4189	4520	4829	4943	5276	5647	5832	5475	10785
36	598	829	1483	2012	2726	3192	3255	3532	3768	4117	4190	4521	4830	4944	5277	5648	5833	5476	10786
37	599	830	1484	2013	2727	3193	3256	3533	3769	4118	4191	4522	4831	4945	5278	5649	5834	5477	10787
38	600	831	1485	2014	2728	3194	3257	3534	3770	4119	4192	4523	4832	4946	5279	5650	5835	5478	10788
39	601	832	1486	2015	2729	3195	3258	3535	3771	4120	4193	4524	4833	4947	5280	5651	5836	5479	10789
40	602	833	1487	2016	2730	3196	3259	3536	3772	4121	4194	4525	4834	4948	5281	5652	5837	5480	10790
41	603	834	1488	2017	2731	3197	3260	3537	3773	4122	4195	4526	4835	4949	5282	5653	5838	5481	10791
42	604	835	1489	2018	2732	3198	3261	3538	3774	4123	4196	4527	4836	4950	5283	5654	5839	5482	10792
43	605	836	1490	2019	2733	3199	3262	3539	3775	4124	4197	4528	4837	4951	5284	5655	5840	5483	10793
44	606	837	1491	2020	2734	3200	3263	3540	3776	4125	4198	4529	4838	4952	5285	5656	5841	5484	10794
45	607	838	1492	2021	2735	3201	3264	3541	3777	4126	4199	4530	4839	4953	5286	5657	5842	5485	10795
46	608	839	1493	2022	2736	3202	3265	3542	3778	4127	4200	4531	4840	4954	5287	5658	5843	5486	10796
47	609	840	1494	2023	2737	3203	3266	3543	3779	4128	4201	4532	4841	4955	5288	5659	5844	5487	10797
48	610	841	1495	2024	2738	3204	3267	3544	3780	4129	4202	4533	4842	4956	5289	5660	5845	5488	10798
49	611	842	1496	2025	2739	3205	3268	3545	3781	4130	4203	4534	4843	4957	5290	5661	5846	5489	10799
50	612	843	1497	2026	2740	3206	3269	3546	3782	4131	4204	4535	4844	4958	5291	5662	5847	5490	10800
51	613	844	1498	2027	2741	3207	3270	3547	3783	4132	4205	4536	4845	4959	5292	5663	5848	5491	10801
52	614	845	1499	2028	2742	3208	3271	3548	3784	4133	4206	4537	4846	4960	5293	5664	5849	5492	10802
53	615	846	1500	2029	2743	3209	3272	3549	3785	4134	4207	4538	4847	4961	5294	5665	5850	5493	10803
54	616	847	1501	2030	2744	3210	3273	3550	3786	4135	4208	4539	4848	4962	5295	5666	5851	5494	10804
55	617	848	1502	2031	2745	3211	3274	3551	3787	4136	4209	4540	4849	4963	5296	5667	5852	5495	10805
56	618	849	1503	2032	2746	3212	3275	3552	3788	4137	4210	4541	4850	4964	5297	5668	5853	5496	10806
57	619	850	1504	2033	2747	3213	3276	3553	3789	4138	4211	4542	4851	4965	5298	5669	5854	5497	10807
58	620	851	1505	2034	2748	3214	3277	3554	3790	4139	4212	4543	4852	4966	5299	5670	5855	5498	10808
59	621	852	1506	2035	2749	3215	3278	3555	3791	4140	4213	4544	4853	4967	5300	5671	5856	5499	10809
60	622	853	1507	2036	2750	3216	3279	3556	3792	4141	4214	4545	4854	4968	5301	5672	5857	5500	10810
61	623	854	1508	2037	2751	3217	3280	3557	3793	4142	4215	4546	4855	4969	5302	5673	5858	5501	10811
62	624	855	1509	2038	2752	3218	3281	3558	3794	4143	4216	4547	4856	4970	5303	5674	5859	5502	10812
63	625	856	1510	2039	2753	3219	3282	3559	3795	4144	4217	4548	4857	4971	5304	5675	5860	5503	10813
64	626	857	1511	2040	2754	3220	3283	3560	3796	4145	4218	4549	4858	4972	5305	5676	5861	5504	10814
65	627	858	1512	2041	2755	3221	3284	3561	3797	4146	4219	4550	4859	4973	5306	5677	5862	5505	10815
66	628	859	1513	2042	2756	3222	3285	3562	3798	4147	4220	4551	4860	4974	5307	5678	5863	5506	10816
67	629	860	1514	2043	2757	3223	3286	3563	3799	4148	4221	4552	4861	4975	5308	5679	5864	5507	10817
68	630	861	1515	2044	2758	3224	3287	3564	3800	4149	4222	4553	4862	4976	5309	5680	5865	5508	10818
69	631	862	1516	2045	2759	3225	3288	3565	3801	4150	4223	4554	4863	4977	5310	5681	5866	5509	10819
70	632	863	1517	2046	2760	3226	3289	3566	3802	4151	4224	4555	4864	4978	5311	5682	5867	5510	10820
71	633	864	1518	2047	2761	3227	3290	3567	3803	4152	4225	4556	4865	4979	5312	5683	5868	5511	10821
72	634	865	1519	2048	2762	3228	3291	3568	3804	4153	4226	4557	4866	4980	5313	5684	5869	5512	10822
73	635	866	1520	2049	2763	3229	3292	3569	3805	4154	4227	4558	4867	4981	5314	5685	5870	5513	10823
74	636	867	1521	2050	2764	3230	3293	3570	3806	4155	4228	4559	4868	4982	5315	5686	5871	5514	10824
75	637	868	1522	2051	2765	3231	3294	3571	3807	4156	4229	4560	4869	4983	5316	5687	5872	5515	10825
76	638	869	1523	2052	2766	3232	3295	3572	3808	4157	4230	4561	4870	4984	5317	5688	5873	5516	10826
77	639	870	1524	2053	2767	3233	3296	3573	3809	4158	4231	4562	4871	4985	5318	5689	5874	5517	10827
78	640	871	1525	2054	2768	3234	3297	3574	3810	4159	4232	4563	4872	4986	5319	5690			

Motor racing

Drivers strike threatens big race

From Keith Bostford

Johannesburg, Jan 21

The South African Grand Prix

scheduled for Saturday was

in doubt at the end of the

most fraught days in motor

racing history. The situation here

is still far from clear, except for

one thing: both parties to the

quarrel over "super licences"

drivers and FISA, are putting on

a remarkable display of brink-

manship.

It is the sort of brinkmanship

that can destroy the sport.

Thirty-one drivers, with a

remarkable show of solidarity,

are camped out in the

Sunnyside Park Hotel in

Johannesburg, and are refusing

to race in the South

African Grand Prix unless certain

changes are made to the

licences under which they drive.

It is not much of a room and

it is certainly not sunny, but the

drivers are all under suspen-

sion and intense pressure

from their managers—have

apparently discovered the plea-

sure of solidarity.

They are in the Gatehouse not

because they want to be there

and not because they do not want

to be doing what they are doing.

Normally being doing—which is

seeking to qualify their cars on

the grid. The reason is that all

attempts to reach a compromise

on the central issue—licences—

have failed.

The central issue, and there

are a number of side issues

which affect both drivers and

their managers, is best expressed

by Niki Lauda. His return to

motor racing, complete with

brilliant lap times and more than

a touch of the old Lauda

is now marred by another

controversy of the sort

that annually rends the sport

apart.

In December, Lauda said

that FISA (the international auto-

mobile sports federation, which

controls the sport) was in a com-

promise saying that we were to

divine new super-licences. We

were to sign our agreement and

else we would not be allowed to

race in South Africa.

When I read this, I thought

FISA must have been a little

clueless. At the end of the letter

it said that I would report

the terms of my contract to

FISA and that the licence I was

granted would bind me not to

race for anyone else during the

term of that contract.

But, as they proposed to

give me a licence for only one

year, I could see the danger of

the next year, my team no longer

liked me or wanted me as a driver,

then I was stuck. For how-

ever long my contract ran, I had

to race or not race, as the team

decided only for that one year.

As Lauda's contract with Mar-

tini ran for five years, the

matter is of some import to him.

There is something touching

about the spectacle of all these

world famous figures of motor

racing—Niki Lauda, Nelson

Piquet, the world champion,

Alain Prost, Jacques Laffite,

John Watson—sitting in a room

where the only thing that matters

to the sport, facing all the insecu-

rities that new boys face: first

instalments of their retainers not

paid, sponsors left in the lurch,

team bosses threatening a finan-

cial and legal attack.

Jacques Laffite put it with

great simplicity and dignity: "I

am here because I love it. I love

the sport and because I love it.

I love my freedom even more and

there is no freedom for me if I

am no longer what I am."

Behind the quarrel, as all sides

acknowledge, is a grave financial

question affecting this \$50m a

year sport and its global televi-

sion audience of over 900

million spectators. The huge

large retainers that have

been paid, and are still being

paid to the handful of drivers

who are the stars of the sport,

are a source of contention.

Traditionally, the autumn races

(particularly Monza), have begun

to assume the proportions of an

original sales bazaar, with teams

and drivers looking for sponsors

and sponsors looking for drivers.

It is, after all, a time when

the Formula One pyramid, in

stances of drivers breaking their

contracts, sometimes with stud-

ious results, have been far from

rare.

The bosses, therefore, have a

powerful argument in their

favour. It is the manner of their

seeking to enforce a little honesty

and respect for contracts that has

created the current furor.

Behind that manner, so the

drivers say, they see the hand

of Bernard Ecclestone, president

of FOTA (the Formula One con-

structors' association) and even

more prominently, the brilliant

figure of Max Mosley, FOTA's

legal adviser.

The manner was a follow-up

to a similar move, as an apparently

innocuous minor clause to a

routine notice on licences, a new

element. This, the drivers argue,

was calculated to foot the money

in such a way that threatened

them with disqualification from

their sport, unless agreement

was immediate and unqualified.

Some 20 of the 31 drivers

signed, many without second

thoughts. "It was not until we

got down here to Kyalami,"

Lauda said, "that we began

talking to each other. And when

we did, we did not like the

picture we saw."

Patrick Tambay and Jean-Pierre

Jabouille have elaborated. They

said the clause created a fundamen-

tal change in their contracts. It

dealt them to their teams and

if there was a swap, it was

about as though they were slaves

to be bought and sold.

FISA and their controversial

question affecting this \$50m a

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Cricket

Pakistanis leave for home feeling like robots

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Melbourne, Jan 21

The Pakistan team left for home today with their manager, Jaz Butt, firing from both hips. He described his own team and the West Indians as "merely stooges" in an exclusively commercial operation.

Mr Butt was critical of the itinerary to which the Pakistanis had been subjected. For much the same reasons as England were after they had toured here two years ago, and in keeping with Pakistan's established policy, he called for neutral umpires. He would, he said, be reporting along these lines to the Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan, of which he is a member.

The high point of Pakistan's tour was their innings victory over Australia in Melbourne last night. Though too late to save their three-test series — they already have been badly beaten in Perth and Brisbane — it showed what they can do on their day. If they went home with their tails down it was because of the disappointment of being pipped at the post for a place in the one-day finals.

Watching Tuesday's match in Sydney on television from their hotel in Melbourne, their feelings may be imagined when rain ended play with Australia 11 of an run ahead of the West Indian scoring rate. Had the heat been opened only two balls earlier, Pakistan and not Australia would be here now for the first of the finals to be played on Saturday.

"Mixing tests and one-day internationals is too demanding," said Mr Butt, "chopping and changing the itinerary like a country like Australia, playing one-day style, tests, just doesn't do any good for a player's ability to produce his best when the season start objecting to being treated as financial bait and will want to be treated as human beings." Mr Butt's mind of neutral umpires?

Mr Butt is of the opinion, and it is shared by the West Indians, that the Australian Cricket Board is "not a cricket board, it is a commercial transaction now — not a sport — so what is wrong with giving touring teams the best of the mind of neutral umpires?"

Although, when they were last in Australia, England and the West Indians were in a one-day series, the Pakistanis, who were made to feel like robots, were made to feel like robots. A handsome commitment to the Australian team and especially to Hughes



Hughes: 'weathered the storms'

"who always seemed to bat at crisis point and weather the storms." Pakistan's forthright manager said that "on grounds of tradition" he dislikes the idea of "tradition has gone down the drain in Australia — there is no tradition in Australian cricket any more. We have coloured trousers and shirts, use white balls and even dress the umpires in a different outfit."

Meanwhile Lloyd is casting around for an XI to put into the field on Saturday. He himself should be fit again, Marshall, Logie and Murray are ruled out. Dujon and Greenidge will play under difficulties, as will Holding, who is to have an operation on a knee when the tour is over. Croft, who gave England so much trouble last year, is considered a poor risk in the one-day matches, being somewhat ponderous in the field.

England's Women, beaten by India yesterday, recovered some of their form by gaining a victory of 301 runs over the Wanguan provincial side in a non-cup match. The Wanguan team totalled 345 runs for six wickets in their 60 overs, then dismissed Wanguan for 44 runs in 36 overs.

A century from the 25-year-old Sussex opener Jan Southgate, their 60 overs. In reply, the international side managed a meagre 80 off 56 overs.

Jackie Lord was the pick of the New Zealand bowlers with three for 12.

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domestic travel and accommodation. If the finals between Australia and West Indies go to five matches, the proceeds from them alone could approach three quarters of a million pounds. By their presence, the West Indians have turned the Australian season into a financial bonanza for PBL, for Mr Packer's Channel Nine and, I hope, for the Australian Cricket Board — though the terms of the agreement between the three are a closely guarded secret.

Meanwhile Lloyd is casting around for an XI to put into the field on Saturday. He himself should be fit again, Marshall, Logie and Murray are ruled out. Dujon and Greenidge will play under difficulties, as will Holding, who is to have an operation on a knee when the tour is over. Croft, who gave England so much trouble last year, is considered a poor risk in the one-day matches, being somewhat ponderous in the field.

England's Women, beaten by India yesterday, recovered some of their form by gaining a victory of 301 runs over the Wanguan provincial side in a non-cup match. The Wanguan team totalled 345 runs for six wickets in their 60 overs, then dismissed Wanguan for 44 runs in 36 overs.

A century from the 25-year-old Sussex opener Jan Southgate, their 60 overs. In reply, the international side managed a meagre 80 off 56 overs.

Jackie Lord was the pick of the New Zealand bowlers with three for 12.

Gruelling finale ahead for England

From Richard Streeton
London, Jan 21

An already jaded England team returned from Madras to the remorseless heat and dust of the inland plains today as they arrived in this textile city to play Central Zone tomorrow.

The three-day game is the start of a final testing fortnight to the Indian section of a tour where fixtures have been poorly planned in several respects. By the time the team return to Madras on the way to Sri Lanka, they will have travelled almost 4,000 miles for the last three months.

After this weekend, England go on to Cuttack on the east coast for the third one-day international with India next Wednesday, followed by the sixth test in Kanpur. It is an unnecessarily gruelling itinerary for a long tour's closing stages, remembering the lack of direct flights in India other than between the major cities. To reach the Central Zone from Kanpur, they have to return through Delhi again.

Raman Subba Row, the English manager, naturally reluctant to disclose the contents of his end of tour report, but some of the lengthy journeys are bound to be critical. A minimum of 100 miles for each of the last three days of the tour is also being stipulated.

Under this scheme each team would bat for 200 overs, with a limitation, perhaps, of 125 overs on the first day. A minimum of 100 miles for each of the last three days of the tour is also being stipulated.

Mr Subba Row also has his own ideas on one-day cricket. He believes India is so hampered by the early dusk. In Cuttack, for instance, a 9 a.m. start has had to be agreed in an effort to complete 100 overs for each side.

England are staying 90 minutes drive away in Bhubaneswar, the players will be rising soon after six o'clock in the morning.

Mr Subba Row wonders whether in India, limited overs games should not be spread over two days which would allow 60 overs better to each side.

For tomorrow's game against North Zone, with Gooch and Gower taking a brief holiday in the last day, England have named all 11 players present. Willis and Allott, who still has a bruised foot, are the most likely to be on the bench.

Fletcher hinted today that England will field five bowlers, including Underwood and Embury, at Kanpur and both spinners are expected to have had preparation here.

Racing

Lulay to confirm high reputation

By Michael Seely

One of the most interesting aspects of racing at Kempton Park this afternoon will be the first appearance under the rules of Lulay in the Walton Novices Hurdle.

Now in the same stable as the jockey, Lulay is a full sister to Bold Argument. Wealth O'Wiltshire has run well enough on several occasions to suggest that the mare is capable of showing a modest handicap off her present mark in the weights. On her only outing this season, she was fourth behind Brando and Late Night Extra at Towcester.

Fred Winter, Roller-Coaster, should get back to winning form in the Hanworth Handicap Steeplechase. Roller-Coaster was a good horse two seasons ago and showed signs of recapturing that ability when running well behind Night Nurse and Captain John in the Hanworth Steeplechase at Towcester.

Shady Deal performed creditably in both the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup and the Welsh Grand National for Josh Gifford. Lenny Deal showed all the courage and stamina in the world when catching Approaching the Mar at Ascot. But Roller-Coaster looks best.

STATE OF GOING (Official Kempton) — soft. Caversham — good (overcast) moderate. 12.20. Tattersall Haydock — good to soft heavy — heavy.

3.0 EASTERN HURDLE (Handicap: £2,326: 2m) (7)

501 3113-44 STOPPED (D) (Ludlow) F Weller 10-12-6
502 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
503 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
504 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
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508 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
509 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9

3.30 ROYAL MAIL HURDLE (Handicap: £1,440: 3m) (10)

603 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
604 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
605 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
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611 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
612 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9

3.45 HANWORTH CHASE (Handicap: £2,498: 3m) (6)

11 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
12 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
13 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
14 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
15 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
16 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
17 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
18 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
19 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
20 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9

3.55 STOKESLEY CHASE (Handicap: £3,120: 3m) (10)

11 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
12 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
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14 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
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20 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9

4.05 NEWTON ABBOT (Handicap: £2,003: 3m 300yd) (14)

11 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
12 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
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20 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9

4.15 CATERICK BRIDGE (Handicap: £2,003: 3m 300yd) (14)

11 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
12 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
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4.25 CATERICK BRIDGE (Handicap: £2,003: 3m 300yd) (14)

11 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
12 11-14-10 MONEY TALKS (D) (Sheep) A Al-Khatib 10-10-9
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4.35 CATERICK BRIDGE (Handicap: £2,003: 3m 300yd) (14)

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4.45 CATERICK BRIDGE (Handicap: £2,003: 3m 300yd) (14)

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5.05 CATERICK BRIDGE (Handicap: £2,003: 3m 300yd) (14)

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5.15 CATERICK BRIDGE (Handicap: £2,003: 3m 300yd) (14)

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New Zealand join England at the top

Palmerton North, Jan 21. — New Zealand had a comfortable 97-run victory over the international XI in a women's World Cup limited-over match today and now lead the table with England. Both sides have 14 points from six matches, but Australia are still better placed with 12 points from three matches.

A fine opening stand between Pat McKelvey, the captain, and Barbara Bayne, who was named 106 runs off 58 overs, set New Zealand on the winning road, although only three others reached double figures. They were 177 for eight at the end of their 60 overs. In reply, the international side managed a meagre 80 off 56 overs.

Jackie Lord was the pick of the New Zealand bowlers with three for 12.

England's Women, beaten by India yesterday, recovered some of their form by gaining a victory of 301 runs over the Wanguan provincial side in a non-cup match. The Wanguan team totalled 345 runs for six wickets in their 60 overs, then dismissed Wanguan for 44 runs in 36 overs.

A century from the 25-year-old Sussex opener Jan Southgate, their 60 overs. In reply, the international side managed a meagre 80 off 56 overs.

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Danes main attraction in Scottish Open

By Iain Mackenzie

The Danes, Morten Frost Hansen and Hans Koppen, and Finland's controversial No. 1, Gillian Gilks, are the main attractions in this weekend's Scottish Open championships at Inverness, in an event which has a large international contingent from Canada, Czechoslovakia, Malaysia, New Zealand and Wales as well as from Scotland and England.

The Danish No. 1, Frost Hansen, is the topseed in the men's singles with his country-

man Jens-Peter Nierhoff. In Sunday morning's semi-finals, they are due to meet Gary Scott, of England, and the stylish Flemish Dan, Denmark.

Miss Koppen, who was ranked second in the world last season, is expected to win the women's singles title, and she is seeded to meet, in the final, Helen Troke of England, the winner of the European junior title in Edinburgh last April. The top seeds in the doubles, Trevers and Billy Gilliland, recently returned from three weeks in Japan, are leading

the seedings with Delfs and Nierhoff.

Mr Gilks has chosen not to defend her singles title but she will be paired with Gillian Clark in the women's doubles where she is seeded first with the Canadian international Johanne Fairclough and Linda Cloutier.

Trevers and Travers lead the Scottish team in the European zone semi-final of the Thomas Cup on January 25 and 26. Scotland are underdoged from the start but have a chance of a 9-0 win in the quarter-final over the Netherlands last month.

continuing support from colleagues and alumni at a club "Celtic 22" situation.

But my main concern was for the sportsmen themselves. It has been usual for the top universities to offer 100 football scholarships even though there is only one first team. Thus, at any one time, 70 to 80 players are offered. Could Bath or Stirling ever contemplate offering sports scholarships to outstanding athletes who might never perform?

We have been used to Americans carrying off gold medals in the sports at the Olympics, rarely ever in an American placed in an event over 400 metres. Why is this? It is because there are very few university athletic scholarships offered over this distance. As a football player, only needs to run a maximum of 40 metres in a game, coaches are on the lookout for any athlete who can run that distance in even time. If they can be found, it is all too easy to offer them another \$20,000 scholarship and persuade them that their future is in football.

Interest is high at Boston University where they have appointed David Hemery as chief coach. Hemery studied there under Bill Smith before winning the 400 metres in the Mexico Olympics.

If there is one weakness in the overall sports scholarship scheme in America, whether in football, basketball, athletics or ice hockey — it is that the scholars are expected to ensure victory for their university team. They are the pawns of the coaches.

Several of our own athletes secure scholarships in inter-collegiate meetings, sufficient to warrant them being included in a pre-Olympic squad. Yet, when they return to Britain, their times and performances are disappointing.

However, two significant developments have occurred recently that may lead to a reappraisal in university

sport philosophy. The first signs of change have been that even if Bath and Stirling reach their maximum of 20 students each, we have been referring only to 7 per cent of the 18-21-year-old age group: that leaves 93 per cent outside any sports schemes.

Skiing

Langgries, West Germany, Jan 21. — Erika Hess, of Switzerland should increase her lead in the World Cup over her rival Irene Epple, of Germany, after she secured a victory in the women's doubles where she is seeded first with the Canadian international Johanne Fairclough and Linda Cloutier.

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